FBIS DAILY REPORT

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NARODNA ARMIYA ON OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY, CPSU APPEAL

AU231103 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 16 Mar 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The Great Beginning"]

[Excerpts] In our epoch of destiny and transition, the voice, actions, and ideas of the Leninist party always evoke the most lively response throughout the world, and have a tremendous impact on the conciousness and behavior of all people. They stir hopes and create the conditions for positive changes. Today the attention of the entire world public is focused on an important new document issued by the CPSU Central Committee -- the appeal to the Soviet people on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Great October. [passage omitted]

Our world as it exists today is a logical result of the historic process that began 70 years ago with the Great October Socialist Revolution. [passage omitted]

As the CPSU Central Committee appeal points out, in recent years the objective development of social life gave precedence to the need for the comprehensive acceleration of social life in Soviet society, its perfection and its elevation to a new quality level. Once again, just as was the case 70 years ago, the CPSU is taking on this task in a Leninist manner, in a creative manner, on the basis of principle, and with dynamism. Once again, as in all complicated and decisive moments of great responsibility in Soviet history, the party is using its strongest weapon -- the tremendous and inexhaustible opportunities of socialism and the energies of the working people -- that is, the human factor.

The innovative spirit of Great October was brilliantly embodied in the historic decisions and trends worked out at the January (1985) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the 27th CPSU Congress, and the January (1987) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The strategy of acceleration adopted by the Soviet Communists urgently requires far-reaching changes which Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev defined as a true revolution, considering their essence and future results.

The Bulgarian left-wing socialists enthusiastically greeted the victory of the Great October Revolution 70 years ago. It inspired them with pride and hope. Following this revolution, our party resolutely embarked on the path of Leninism and steadily mastered the lessons of the first socialist revolution. It learned how to apply its universally valid laws in conformity with the specific conditions existing in our country. As Comrade Todor Zhivkov pointed out, the 9 September 1944 socialist revolution in our country, which was victorious with the decisive assistance of the Soviet Army, was from its very beginning a repetition of the Great October Revolution in its basic and essential elements.

The April plenum of the BCP Central Committee held in 1956 was a brilliant manifestation of the BCP's skill in creatively applying the ideas of the October Revolution. The plenum adopted and worked out its April Leninist policy, which had and continues to have a tremendous impact on the all-round progress of socialist Bulgaria. The beginning, the development, and the subsequent implementation of this course are indissolubly linked with the name and work of Comrade Todor Zhivkov. [passage omitted]

The decisions and postulates of the 13th BCP Congress and the practical steps to implement them show that our path is the correct one and that it conforms to the objective laws and needs of social development, to the real opportunities existing in our country. [passage omitted]

Along with all our people, we, the soldiers of the Bulgarian People's Army, adopt the appeal of the CPSU Central Committee as a brilliant new manifestation of creative Marxism-Leninism, as a new revelation and as a program for revolutionary changes in the Soviet Union, in the socialist countries, and throughout the world. This appeal equips us with the correct evaluation of the present decisive and dramatic moment in mankind's history. It inspires us with new strength and confidence in the struggle for peace, socialism, and social progress.

The CPSU is the party capable of accomplishing a powerful acceleration of social development and promoting peace. Today Lenin's inspired words: "Yes, there is such a party!" are once again filled with that revolutionary spirit and unprecedented daring with which the Bolsheviks lit the spark of the most just and humanitarian system in the history of mankind, a spark that will transform our planet into the worthiest place for true life.

DISCUSSION ON ENERGY SUPPLY COOPERATION WITH USSR

AU231203 [Editorial Report] Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian on 18 March, on page 1 and 2 of its weekly supplement OKTOMVRIYSKA SVETLINA which is published jointly by ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME and NOVOSTI, carries a 3,000-word roundtable discussion of Soviet and Bulgarian power supply specialists, entitled "Businesslike Contribution to Renewal," which took place at the "ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME Editorial Board." The date is not given.

The following Soviet specialists are reported as having taken part in the discussion: "Yuriy Ilin, economic counsellor at the USSR embassy in Sofia; Georgiy Rudenko, GOSPLAN representative and counsellor for planning issues at the USSR Embassy in Sofia; Izrail Sapir, leader of the group of Soviet specialists at the Kozloduky nuclear power plant; Gennadiy Salomakhin, leader of the group of Soviet specialists at the Lenin metallurgy plant; Boris Plotnikov, leader of the group of Soviet specialists at the Dimitrovgrad chemical combine; and Nikolay Voronkov, expert at the apparatus of the State Committee on Economic Cooperation."

The following Bulgarian specialists are reported to have taken part in the discussion: "Nikolay Todoriev, chairman of the 'Energetika' State Trust; Georgi Georgiev, first deputy chairman of the State Planning Commission; Khristo Popov, deputy chairman of the 'Metallurgy and Mineral Raw Materials' Association; Minko Minkov, deputy chairman of the 'Biotechnical and Chemical Industry' Association; and Yordan Vachkov, chief director at the Ministry of Trade."

The discussion focuses on "friendship and cooperation in the areas of power supply, metallurgy, chemical industry, and other economic branches." Prof Nikolay Todoriev dwells on Bulgarian-USSR cooperation in power supply and notes that "treaties on constructing three major central heat supply plants in Pazardzhik, Khaskovo, and Sliven," have already been signed with the USSR.

Izrail Sapir, leader of the Soviet specialists working at the Kozloduy nuclear plant, states: "The tension surrounding the construction of the fifth nuclear reactor reached its peak. In February we tested the immense power of the turbine. It was an exceptionally complex process. What made me personally very happy? I was at the central seat, my 360 colleagues were wherever necessary, but all the operations were performed by Bulgarian specialists. I assure you, you can rely on the fact that next winter the fifth reactor will start functioning, being operated by reliable hands...."

Each of the other participants imparts thoughts on Bulgarian-Soviet cooperation, or reveals data on this matter, always in connection with the specific plant in which he works. Eng Boris Plotnikov mentions that the Khaskovo machine building plant will intensify cooperation with the USSR in producing liquid fertilizers. Georgiy Rudenko dwells on expanding cooperation in planning, while Minko Minkov states: "In our complex [biotechnical and chemical industry complex], there is practically no plant which has not been constructed with Soviet cooperation in designing, technological equipment, and supply of complex installations." He also reveals that Bulgaria exports artificial fertilizers to 35 countries.

Yordan Vachkov, who speaks last, notes "the great importance of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January 1987 plenum in giving impulses to the new qualitative growth in our country. The new forms of cooperation, outlined in the plenum's documents have special significance for us."

BCP DAILY ASSESSES ATANASOV VISIT TO BUDAPEST

AU301029 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 29 Mar 87 p 4

[Editorial article: "Bulgaria-Hungary — Joint Efforts Are Needed To Reach the Common Goals"]

[Text] The official visit to Hungary of Georgi Atanasov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has ended. The visit took place at the invitation of Gyorgy Lazar, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers.

The mutual interest in the agreements which have been reached is justified by the ancient friendship between our two peoples, and the constant and ascending development of fraternal socialist cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Hungarian People's Republic within the framework of CEMA, to which the periodic meetings between Todor Zhivkov and Janos Kadar, our first party and state leaders, make a special contribution. Last but not least, the special attention we give the visit is dictated by the question of what new solutions will be produced in connection with the tasks for our further integration under the conditions of the present dynamic changes caused by the scientific-technical revolution, and what common ways will be marked for coordinated actions on the part of the two states, members of the Warsaw Pact, for guaranteeing cooperation and world peace.

The evaluation of the current state of the integrational processes in the various areas of socioeconomic life and the key of their future development were voiced, first of all, in the talks between Janos Kadar, MSZMP Central Committee general secretary, and Georgi Atanasov, and at the official talks between the leader of the Bulgarian Government and his Hungarian colleague Gyorgy Lazar. The positions of and prospects for bilateral relations were clearly outlined in the toasts read at the official dinner and in the joint communique which was published.

What is the main characteristic of the present and future tasks of economic cooperation between the two fraternal countries? Complete unity was noted in the opinions on the positive state of relations and the real contribution to mutually beneficial cooperation in implementing the decisions of the 13th BCP and 13th MSZMP Congresses.

Simultaneously, it was categorically stressed that it is necessary to utilize the potential of the untapped possibilties and develop higher forms of the international socialist division of labor, such as industrial production sharing and joint enterprises an scientific-production trusts. It is the election of this road that contains the correct answer to the alternatives -- either to move to the front positions of the scientific-technical revolution, thus proving the advantages of socialism, or to encounter the sharp problems of lagging behind.

The Bulgarian-Hungarian dialogue expressed the clear and firm position of the two countries in the area of international politics -- unreserved and active support of the large-scale, active, and peace-loving course of the Soviet Union, aimed at reducing and eliminating nuclear weapons in Europe and and the world, guaranteeing peace, and establishing peaceful coexistence between states with different social system.

Optimism is the word that remains the bottom line of Comrade Georgi Atanasov's visit to Hungary — optimism related to future fraternal cooperation in all areas of life, which will be more active than ever. Our two parties, countries, and peoples share common goals, and in order to achieve them we need common actions, multiplied by the common denominator of the present and the future.

BCP DAILY MARKS GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

AU272143 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 25 Mar 87 p 6

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO editorial note: "25 March -- National Holiday of the Hellenic Republic"]

[Text] Our neighboring country Greece is celebrating its national holiday today. On this date in 1821 the Greek people rose in a nationwide uprising against the Turkish enslavers. After 7 years of struggle, which required numerous sacrifices, the people of Greece won their long-awaited freedom.

The fact that our two countries are neighbors determines our close historical ties. Our relations, which underwent numerous changes, impose one final conclusion: Only good-neighbor relations, friendship, and cooperation are in the interests of both peoples.

The meetings and talks between Comrade Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council, and high-ranking state leaders of the Hellenic Republic are of primary importance for the present-day favorable development of Bulgarian-Greek relations. An important event in this development was the signing of a Declaration of Friendship, Good-Neighbor Relations, and Cooperation Between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Hellenic Republic during the visit paid by Andreas Papandreou, prime minister of Greece, to our country in September 1986. This was a political act of tremendous importance; it set an example fo relations between two neighboring states with different social systems.

On the occasion of the Greek national holiday the Bulgarian public wishes the friendly people of Greece prosperity, progress, and success in the interest of peace and security in the Balkans and in Europe.

ZHIVKOV, ATANASOV GREET GREEK LEADERS 24 MAR

AU262055 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 24 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council, and Georgi Atanasov, sent a telegram of congratulations to Khristo Sartsetakis, president of Greece, and to Andreas Papandreou, prime minister of the Hellenic Republic, on the occasion of their country's national holiday. The telegram expresses most cordial congratulations and most sincere wishes for the comprehensive progress of the friendly Greek people.

The telegram expresses the conviction that the friendly relations and cooperation between Bulgaria and Greece, which are based upon lasting foundations in the spirit of mutual confidence, will continue to pursue their upward development in the interest of both peoples, for the sake of peace and security in the Balkans, in Europe, and the world.

ZHIVKOV RECEIVES GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER

AU271904 Sofia BTA in English 1857 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Sofia, March 27 (BTA) -- State Council President Todor Zhivkov received today Greece's Foreign Minister Mr Carolos Papoulias who handed him a message from Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou.

The friendly talks centered on the bilateral relations and on certain topical international issues.

The meeting was attended by Mr Peter Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria.

MLADENOV LEAVES ON VISIT TO SPAIN 31 MAR

AU311321 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1300 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov departed on an official visit to Spain at the invitation of Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez. At Sofia airport Comrade Petur Mladenov was seen off by Comrade Milko Balev, deputy ministers of foreign affairs, and other officials.

Arrives in Madrid

AU312041 Sofia BTA in English 1914 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Madrid, March 31 (BTA corr.) -- Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, arrived on a three-day official visit to Spain at the invitation of Mr. Francisco Fernandez Ordonez minister of foreign affairs of Spain.

This is the first visit of Bulgarian foreign minister to Spain since the complete restoration of the diplomatic relations between the two countries on January 27, 1977.

In a statement after his arrival Mr. Petur Mladenov said: "During the present visit we will try to find ways for activation of the relations. Besides, I think that the visit will have its place in the general process of development of the relations between the East and the West, between all European countries. The visit will also have its place in the common desire for peace, greater security and cooperation among people."

KWP POLITBURO MEMBER KIM YONG-NAM VISIT

AU301451 Sofia BTA in English 1430 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Sofia, March 30 (BTA) -- Mr. Kim Yong-nam, member of the Politburo of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-president of the Administration Council and minister of foreign affairs of the DPRK, paid a brief visit to Bulgaria.

During his stay the guest met Mr. Petur Mladenov, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria.

Mr. Kim Yong-nam departed from this country.

LUKANOV RETURNS FROM HAVANA CEMA SESSION

AU300956 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 29 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] Andrey Lukanov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, returned on 28 March from Havana, where he took part in the sixth meeting of CEMA Committee on Cooperation in Machine Building.

CONTROL COMMITTEE DISCUSSES ILLEGAL INCOMES

AU301905 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] A session of the State and People's Control Committee took place in Sofia today. It discussed the results of an investigation on the work of okrug commissions dealing with the preservation of citizens' property in 1986.

According to the results of the investigation, the work of the aforementioned commissions was evaluated as unsatisfactory and inefficient. It was established that the number of private artisans working without official authorization, as well as the number of individuals engaged in illegal profit-making business deals, has increased. The number of documents and files on such cases have increased as well.

The total amount of financial means acquired by illegal and profit-making activities and business deals amounts to 2.5 million leva. The majority of these amounts have already been restored to the state budget through legal procedures. Nevertheless, the restored amounts would have been even greater if the okrug control commissions had extended their activities to certain other national economic branches instead of limiting them to the area of private enterprise.

The leadership of the State and People's Control Committee adopted a decision on speeding up the complete organization of the commissions on the preservation of citizens' property, and of the groups attached to such commissions, as well as on further promoting the activities of these commissions and groups with emphasis upon the preventive character of their work.

COMMENTARY PREVIEWS GORBACHEV'S UPCOMING VISIT

LD301001 Prague in Czech and Slovak to Europe 2230 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] It was announced both in Prague and Moscow yesterday that Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, will arrive soon on an official visit to Czechoslovakia. Editor Radek Warnke reflects in the following commentary on the significance of this visit:

This will not be the first visit of the highest Soviet representative to our country. He visited Czechoslovakia in 1969 and 1979, and on 21 November 1985 we welcomed him as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee following his meeting in Geneva with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. At that time he briefed the highest representatives of the Warsaw Pact countries about the course and results of these talks in Prague. He also had talks in Prague Castle with Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic, on cooperation between the two Communist Parties and the development of relations between the CSSR and the Soviet Union.

Of course, since then there have been many important contacts between high-ranking Czechoslovak and Soviet representatives. This was also confirmed by the visit to Czechoslovakia this February by USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who held talks in Prague soon after the January CPSU Central Committee plenum. Apart from international political problems the process of restructuring, which is taking place throughout Soviet society, was also discussed in detail. This subject is the more interesting for us because the CPCZ leadership has also declared a program for inevitable, profound changes primarily in the economic sphere. And it was in connection with Eduard Shevardnadze's visit that Gustav Husak, the party's general secretary, declared that we would make a creative use of Soviet experiences.

It is apparent that Mikhail Gorbachev's official, friendly visit to Czechoslovakia will provide a great opportunity to absorb such experiences. After all, it is with his name that the process of accelerating the social and economic development of Soviet society, approved by the 27th CPSU Congress, is linked. This does not concern the congress documents alone. The CPSU has also created prerequisites to enable the congress resolutions to be put in practice. Restructuring and accelerating the development of our society are also the chief tasks that we are tackling in our country. The further development of Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation, a development at a qualitatively higher level, will depend to a large extent on how well we cope with the new tasks. The Czechoslavak economy is closely linked with the Soviet one, and for this reason it is natural that apart from the most important problems of the present day world these tasks, too, will be on the agenda of Mikhail Gorbachev's talks in Czechoslovakia.

CHNOUPEK OUTLINES WARSAW PACT SESSION, RETURNS

Grants Interview in Moscow

AU301712 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 26 Mar 87 p 7

[Unattributed report on interview with Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek by Moscow correspondents of CTK and RUDE PRAVO: "To Protect Mankind Against Nuclear Destruction" — date not given]

[Text] Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, granted an interview to CTK and RUDE PRAVO Moscow correspondents at the conclusion of the session of the Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Warsaw Pact Member-States. [paragraph continues]

The framework of our Moscow session itself was, in a way, exceptional. It was an anniversary session, in the same city in which we assembled 10 years ago for the first time as the Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs. This made it possible not only to view the path we have traversed since the Bucharest session last October, but also to evaluate our activities in a broader time frame. The awareness of responsibility for the destinies of our entire planet was enhanced by the fact that our deliberations were held in the jubilee year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and in the very period when the potential of new thinking and the growing attractiveness of socialism in the world, are writing a new chapter in the development of the Leninist legacy. It was also symbolic that the session was held in Moscow, the city of the renaissance of highest social and ethical values typical of socialism, and of socialism alone.

The reception by the CPSU Central Committee General Secretary was extremely significant and inspiring for the representatives of all fraternal countries, but particularly for us, who expect Mikhail Gorbachev to visit Czechoslovakia in the very near future, Bohuslav Chnoupek stressed. Our talks with him were characterized by frankness, informality, joint reflection, and deliberations, by the search for ways and practical steps to resolve the weightiest problems of human civilization. In this way it was confirmed that in the democratization of international relations an extraordinary role is also played by the democratization process within our alliance itself.

Minister Chnoupek said that all delegations to the Committee of Ministers' deliberations supported the restructuring process in the USSR and the innovative course of the Soviet foreign policy following the Leninist truth about inseparable socialism and peace. They particularly appraised the revolutionary contribution of the CPSU Central Committee's January session. We, too, have professed allegiance to its resolution, as the inspiring source of ideas for accomplishing the tasks of our 17th CPCZ Congress; this is proved by the results of the recent Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session.

We have stated that the peace initiatives of the USSR and of other socialist countries are markedly changing world public opinion, determining the pace in solving international problems, and providing inspiration for the decisive peace forces on our planet.

Understandably, we devoted great attention to the materialization of the mobilizing action program proclaimed by Mikhail Gorbachev on 15 January 1986; to the issues discussed at the Soviet-American meeting in Geneva; and to the significance of Reykjavik. We warmly welcomed and expressed high appreciation for another of the USSR's generous steps — the proposal to conclude an independent agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on the elimination of American and Soviet intermediate-range missiles in Europe, on the substantial reduction of their strength in Asia, and on the adoption of other measures connected with this.

These exemplary steps, which meet the other side halfway and which we fully support, raise the fight for a world without nuclear arms to a qualitatively higher level, and thus establish realistic foundations for working out a concrete agreement. The final solution to this problem would undoubtedly influence the task of reducing the strength of strategic weapons and averting the militarization of space. It would also provide the impetus for opening negotiations on reducing the strengths of armed forces and conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals, in the spirit of the appeal launched by the Warsaw Pact's Political Consultative Committee in Budapest.

These steps also open the path leading to the banning and elimination of chemical weapons. We trust that the talks now under way at the conference on disarmament in Geneva will make it possible to complete this work in 1987, by concluding an appropriate convention. We also expressed this viewpoint, which envisages the constructive approach to all involved sides to the solution of this urgent issue and in the document issued by our session.

In connection with the USSR's new revolutionary proposal on the removal of Soviet and American intermediate-range missiles from Europe, we expressed our readiness to conclude (after signing an appropriate document) an agreement between the CSSR and USSR on the withdrawal of the long-range operational and tactical missile complex from Czechoslovak territory, Bohuslav Chnoupek said.

In assessing the issues of the all-European process, we stated that the foundations of European security and cooperation are strengthening and that the willingness and interest of the signatory states in overcoming the disagreemets preventing further progress are beginning to prevail. We unanimously adopted the appeal "For the Development of the All-European Process and for the Successful Conclusion of the Vienna Meeting." Provided all three baskets are balanced, we will devote special attention at this meeting to achieving an agreement on an all-European mandate and forum of disarmament negotiations, in accordance with the proposal submitted by the Polish People's Republic. We supported the USSR's proposal on convening a conference on humanitarian issues in Moscow, and we welcomed the support granted to the Czechoslovak proposal on convening an economic forum in Prague.

On the whole, our session confirmed that the path embarked upon is correct; that it is essential to further improve the collaboration of socialist countries; and that one must deepen and make more efficient the forms of coordinating and improvong the Warsaw Pact mechanism, and also search for an apply new and even more efficient forms. The negotiations confirmed the agreement of views on all main issues of the development of international life, and the determination to ward off militarism's aggresive plans and strengthen the relations of friendship in the interests of consolidating peaceful conditions for building socialism in our countries and for enhancing its attractiveness in the world. The adopted communique and other documents all affirm these principles for reaching our common goal, Bohuslav Chnoupek stressed.

Returns From Meeting 25 Mar

AU311136 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Mar 87 p 1

[CTK report: "Session of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Warsaw Pact Countries Concluded"]

[Text] The Warsaw Pact countries' foreign ministers departed from Moscow on 25 March.

At Sheremetyevo Airport they were seen off by Eduard Shevardnadze, official representative of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the heads of diplomatic missions of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the CSSR, the Hungarian People's Republic, the GDR, the PPR, and the Romanian SR to the USSR.

Prague -- B. Chnoupek was welcomed at Ruzyne Airport by Zdenek Cernik, CSSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, in the presence of Viktor Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR.

RUDE PRAVO COMMENTS ON PACT MEETING ISSUES

AU301341 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 28 Mar 87 p 7

[Dusan Rovensky commentary: "A Call For Peace and Cooperation"]

[Text] The recent session in Moscow of the Committee of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Warsaw Pact Member-States discussed pressing problems of international political relations with special emphasis on the situation in Europe. It is only natural that in this connection it paid exceptional attention to the ways of promoting the all-European process and bringing the Vienna meeting to a successful conclusion. The urgent problems of disarmament, ensuring peace and security, strengthening trust, and expanding cooperation in all spheres are on that forum's agenda.

The first half of the seventies brought remarkable results in easing the international tension, especially in Europe. In 1975, 35 states of diverse social systems met at the Conference on European Security and Cooperation in Helsinki. The meeting produced the Final Act, a document whose purpose is to turn Europe into a continent of peace and cooperation.

The socialist states sought the continuation of the process of all-European detente at the follow-up meetings in Belgrade, Madrid, and now in Vienna. Their aim is to diversify and promote this process to make it all-embracing. "This would make it possible to shape and develop relations among signatory states on the solid and reliable foundation of all principles of the Helsinki Final Act in the interest of a better life for all people and every individual, so that they could enjoy peace and look into the future with confidence," the appeal of the Warsaw Pact member-states adopted in Moscow stresses.

The ongoing Vienna meeting, which is to end in a couple of months, must play a key role in this respect. Its positive conclusion is highly important as it would constitute a substantial step toward the future of Europe and the world in peace.

The appeal of the Warsaw Pact member-states adopted at the session of the Committee of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs stresses the need to achieve tangible results in reducing the number of troops and conventional armaments and in tackling the problem of intermediate-range missiles and nuclear weapons. The ministers of foreign affairs called for the ban and liquidation of the means of chemical warfare.

Gigantic numbers of troops and armaments are concentrated in Europe; thousands of nuclear warheads, missiles, aircraft, tanks, guns, and hundreds of divisions are deployed here.

At the Budapest session of the Political Consultative Committee in June 1986, the socialist states proposed to the NATO member-countries and other European states a specific plan for reducing military tension from the Atlantic to the Urals. However, the socialist states have not received from NATO a constructive reply to this initiative. Now it is necessary to make progress; time does not wait. Possibilities of making progress exist. The mandate of the Stockholm conference could be expanded to include the discussion of disarmament issues. The discussion could be about ways of gradually curbing military activities, taking additional confidence-building measures, and achieving military parity on the lowest possible level.

A very important role would also be played by the further development of economic cooperation. Here, too, there is great scope for expansion. Cooperation is hampered by discriminatory measures of Western countries and by the erection of artificial barriers. At the same time it is beyond dispute that the expansion of economic interaction would also strengthen the political foundations of international detente. The CSSR proposed at the Vienna meeting to hold an economic forum in Prague. Other fraternal countries recommended the holding of a forum on ecology in Bucharest, and so forth. Of considerable interest are also some initiatives concerning the "second basket." The discussion of constructive proposals in an atmosphere of cooperation could open up new ways to the continue the all-European process of detente.

The socialist states also regard as important cooperation in the humanitarian sphere. We favor a broad development of interaction in this field, an eminent contribution to which could be made by the international conference in Moscow that has been proposed by the Soviet Union, and by other measures.

The Vienna meeting has entered its second half, provided that it will proceed according to its timetable. It should result in substantial and well-considered decisions effectively promoting European security and cooperation. As the Moscow appeal of the Warsaw Pact member-states stresses, the socialist states are ready to do everything to ensure that the meeting yields constructive and fruitful results.

PAPER URGES CEMA, EEC 'CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE'

AU301218 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 Mar 87 p 6

[Ladislav Alster commentary in the "Notes" column: "CEMA and EEC"]

[Text] The first condition for the conclusion of every international agreement is the political will to do so. If there is no such will, there will be no agreement. The first attempts to establish contacts between the two large European economic organizations — CEMA and the EEC — go back to the beginning of the seventies. Old-timers speak of 11 different negotiations on the establishment of relations; but the result has been almost zero. At that time the EEC lacked the political will to come to an agreement, the will mentioned above.

This fact has been detrimental for both organizations. Today CEMA and EEC member countries produce 50 percent of everything produced in the world; but their mutual trade amounts to a mere 4 percent of overall world trade. In such important spheres as, for instance, environment protection or power engineering, the cooperation needed has been stagnating. And we could go on citing such examples.

The situation changed only in the middle of the eighties. In June 1985 CEMA's Executive Committee sent a letter to Jacques Delors, chairman of the Commission of European Communities, which contained a proposal to improve cooperation between the two organizations and to adopt a joint declaration on the establishment of official relations. This was done on the initiative of the CEMA economic summit which was held in Moscow in 1984. A breakthrough was achieved.

During last year's negotiations, the stands maintained by both sides drew closer to each other; an even greater rapproachement was achieved during the "second round" of experts' negotiations last week in Geneva. True, no agreement has been achieved so far on the final text of all points of the joint declaration, and the experts will have to meet again so as to work out more precise formulations. However, the document to be concluded on the basis of common political will is essentially ready.

Provided that both sides maintain a constructive attitude, the document can become not only a basic initiative for expanding cooperation between the two organizations -- it can also become a valuable contribution to improving the political atmosphere in Europe.

STROUGAL SENDS MESSAGE ON UN'S ECE ANNIVERSARY

LD010932 Prague CTK in English 1750 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Prague March 31 (CTK) -- Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal noted in a letter on the 40th anniversary of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) today that it should play an important role in building a new Europe.

Sending a message of greetings to a ceremonial assembly in Geneva marking the occasion he stressed Czechoslovakia's "wish that confrontation among European countries be a matter of the past and its place be taken by relations of good neighbourhood as the framework and basis of political and economic cooperation among states. It is true that many things divide us. We believe, however, that it is high time to remove obstacles to European cooperation in common interest. Building a new Europe presupposes developing a corresponding political and economic infrastructure which should promote such building. The role of the ECE in such a process could and should be historically signficant", the premier stressed.

He said the present era was critical not only politically and militarily but also in international economic relations and this was doubly true about relations among ECE member states having different social systems. Mutual interdependence of countries and regions was objectively increasing while growing problems in international economic relations required resolute and new steps to solve the complex of issues related to economic and scientific-technological development and to the extension of international cooperation.

"By solving economic problems and questions of cooperation among the member states of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe on a level corresponding to their position in world economy the commission can significantly contribute to the necessary world-wide economic stabilization and positive development in international economic relations", the premier added. He stressed the development of cooperation within the ECE was vital for its individual members as well as Europe as a whole.

INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS CSSR LEADERS

Husak Receives Tiwari

LD010829 Prague CTK in English 1608 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Prague March 31 (CTK) -- Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak received at Prague Castle today Indian Foreign Minister Naraian Dutt Tiwari, currently on an official visit to Czechoslovakia.

The two officials voiced the conviction that only a political dialogue and constructive cooperation between states with different social systems can help improve the international atmosphere and strengthen peaceful cooperation in the world.

They emphasized that Czechoslovakia and India have identical or very close views on the main problems of the world. Stressed during the meeting was India's contribution to the Non-Aligned Movement and the importance of the initiative of the "New Delhi Six" and the "New Delhi declaration on the principles of a world without nuclear weapons and violence", signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi in November 1986.

Gustav Husak and Naraian Dutt Tiwari agreed during their cordial and friendly discussion that Czechoslovak-Indian relations have been developing well and broad possibilities of their promotion exist in all spheres.

Strougal, Indra Greet Tiwari

LD311300 Prague CTK in English 1202 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Prague March 31 (CTK) -- Indian Foreign Minister Naraian Dutt Tiwari continued his visit to Czechoslovakia with a meeting with Premier Lubomir Strougal today.

The two officials discussed the present stage of Czechoslovak Indian relations and considered ways of expanding them.

Minister Tiwari, who arrived here yesterday, was received also by Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Chairman Alois Indra. The two representatives stressed the important part played by contacts between two representatives and legislative bodies of the two countries in the general context of Czechoslovak-Indian relations. They said their views on the present international situation and on the urgent need for its improvement were identical or close.

HUSAK CPCZ CC CLOSING SPEECH COVERAGE CONTINUES

LD272200 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] We will now inform you about the content of the concluding speech of Gustav husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, at the 5th session of the party's Central Committee:

In his introduction Comrade Gustav Husak hailed the unanimity with which the Central Committee adopted a basic decision on further conduct in the foundation and implementation of the 17th CPCZ Congress program with the use of the January CPSU Central Committee plenum suggestions and also a basic decision on the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium report on the acceleration of scientific and technological progress. This unanimity is especially important as our society enters a new stage that brings principally new tasks and places substantially higher requirements upon our entire party and all working people.

I spoke about the exceptional extent of the changes we face in the spheres of economy, science, and technology and in deepening the democratization of the life of our society in my speech at the opening of our 5th session. Many further changes are mentioned in the Presidium report delivered by Comrade Milos Jakes; they were also a topic of discussion. It is very important that the Central Committee discussed all the issues on the present deliberations' agenda in such an exacting way. As a leading political force of the society, our party bears responsibility for the correct implementation of restructuring and great reforms in the economic and other spheres, for the benefit of our people and socialist Czechoslovakia.

The resolution, which the Central Committee adopted at the 5th session, represents a united and binding policy for the entire party, for all its bodies and organizations, and for all communists. The 17th congress has mapped out the plan for the acceleration of economic, social, and public development. We focus the efforts of the whole party and all people upon its gradual implementation. We gained much experience and enriched our knowledge during the last year in this respect. Today, we can see many problems in a more specific manner. The experience of the parties of the fraternal socialist countries, and in particular of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, provide a valuable source of inspiration for us.

The most decisive aspect to be stressed at present, stated Comrade Gustav Husak, is to implement resolutely the adopted conclusions at all levels and sections, in the party and in society at large and to care everywhere for the unity of words and deeds. This too, was discussed by many comrades. It must be emphasized yet again, because the best possible resolutions are nothing more than a collection of wishes if they are not implemented. Therefore, it is so important that all party bodies and organizations work out the conclusions of our fifth session into a binding course for the implementation of the program of the 17th congress. The exactingness of our targets requires the intensification of purpose on all levels, starting with the Central Committee and its bodies; a critical view of the fulfillment of the tasks; and a sharp eye to shortcomings -- of which there are plenty in various sections -- and, to pushing through their rectification in an energetic way.

I praise highly the critical, demanding, and constructive spirit, which was characteristic of the Central Committee deliberation, said Comrade Gustav Husak. He continued: The method of critical exactingness must be a lasting feature of the Communists' work, all bodies, and organizations of the party. All of society's objective is the development of constructive criticism, which helps in raising the work onto a higher level and has nothing in common with demogogy. To fulfill the tasks outlined by the party for successfully coping with today's requirements, it is necessary to unfold a wide initiative of the people and create the most favorable conditions for the effective use of their creative energy and ability.

We must move purposefully toward deepening socialist democracy, toward the full utilization of the possibilities of our political system and the entire national front. At the same time we must seek further ways of widening the participation of the people in management and administration, and new ways of democratization and advancement of self-management in the political, economic, cultural; and other spheres. Much was said at the 17th congress on this topic.

The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium resolution of 26 February 1987 set quite concrete tasks and established directions for continuing to deepen the democratization of our political system, the life of the national front and its individual organizations, the economic sphere and cooperative movement, and the activity of national committees, legislative corps, and other spheres. The Central Committee fully supported this resolution. Some issues will have to be worked out in concrete forms; however, a number of adopted conclusions can and must be implemented immediately. These are, naturally, the advancement of socialist democracy and the reinforcement of the socialist system in which the working class and the masses of working people have their main say.

Comrade Gustav Husak went on to say that the unified effort for improving socialism and the democratization of the society was succinctly expressed by Comrade Gorbachev as follows: More socialism; more democracy. This carries a deep logic for us too. The more we speak to the people, the better they are informed, the greater their contribution in to the decision making process, and the greater and more committed their support and participation in the implementation of the aims of socialist development. From this follows the task of the officials of all party, state, economic, and social bodies and for national committees: to see that an obvious part of their daily activity and work among people is to speak to them, hear what they have to say, and win them over to our policy and its implementation. The overwhelming majority of the people are devoted to the socialist system and have a sincere interest in our society's successful advancement, and are determined to contribute to this with their work. This is the maxim for all work with people: improve their standard of information as an inseparable part of the democratization of the society and approach them always with openness and confidence.

In all our political work and in the work of the media, Comrade Gustav Husak continued, we must create an atmosphere of respect for honest, selfless work of the worker -- agricultural worker, engineer and technician, artist and scientist -- and show convincingly concrete and positive examples of innovative activity by all people who are preparing the way for new thinking and new attitudes in any sphere. This, however, does not negate a critical view of shortcomings, slackness, the violation of the principles of socialist ethics and discipline: on the contrary, it presupposes it.

On the issues of scientific-technical progress Comrade Gustav Husak said that this is one of the main prerequisites on which the further dynamic advancement of our society depends. There is a fierce competition between the two world social systems in this sphere too. Therefore, everything must be done to keep abreast of the fast development of the worldwide scientific-technical revolution. We have to make greater demands in this sphere too. In particular, in the entire scientific research base we must strive to make use of all existing possibilities, improve management, improve the prerequisites for the implementation of tasks, and demand at the same time a greater contribution to society. We know that in the scientific research base too, as was said in the Presidium report and pointed out also in the discussion, there are a number of problems in the supply of measuring instruments and other instruments. There is some truth in this. However, we must realize that everything cannot be done at the same time. The disposable funds for scientific-technical progress must be spent with priority given to those areas in which there are prerequisites for attaining real and effective results. This is true also for the updating of the technical base of production.

We have to show more initiative in the use of the great possibilities gradually becoming open to us in the economic and scientific-technical cooperation with the USSR and the other CEMA countries. It is one of the key ways to multiply the internal strength of each country, and of our community as such, to accelerate the rate of scientific-technical and technological upsurge and to reach the top world standard in the most important spheres.

In connection with the results of the fulfillment of this year's plan, Comrade Gustav Husak pointed at the necessity to rectify the deficits from the beginning of this year, to secure the continuous running of production, and consistently care for the timely observation of supply duties [dodavatelskych povinnosti]. We know that many problems have been created by the worsened weather; however, failure to fulfill the plan cannot be justified everywhere by the weather. It is necessary to adopt effective measures in all spheres, with immediate effect, to secure the fulfillment of the tasks of this year which is of special importance for the fulfillment of the aims of the eighth 5-Year Plan.

The tasks ahead of us are: the restructuring of the economic mechanism, the creation of economic prerequisites for carrying out our social program, and deepening the democratization of our society. All this requires that we further increase our effort in the working out and implementation of the line of the 17th congress of the CPCZ.

The battle for the great goals which we set for ourselves must be waged with the awareness that on their implementation depends a better life for our people and the further flourishing of our socialist homeland, said Comrade Gustav Husak in the final speech at the fifth session of the CPCZ Central Committee.

STROUGAL ADDRESSES JOINT CHAMBERS MEETING 24 MAR

AU301152 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 24 Mar 87 pp 1, 3

[Report by Bratislava PRAVDA staff journalists Iveta Fryvaldska and Frantisek Zdobina on CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal's "concluding" speech delivered at the fourth joint meeting of the CSSR Federal Assembly's Chamber of Nations and the Chamber of the People in Prague on 24 March]

[Text] CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal emphasized the historic importance of the acceleration strategy of our society's socioeconomic development determined by the 17th CPCZ Congress. He stressed that we must realistically assess our possibilities and strength while at the same time force through the new stances, viewpoints, and plans. It is natural, he said, that as we do this we are meeting and will continue to meet resistance and outdated approaches. We must conduct this struggle for the new not only in a democratic and principled way but also in such a way as not to lose time.

He noted that the government faces not only difficult and demanding tasks which concern our future, but that we must also pay systematic attention to the fulfillment of this year's plan, because thus far we have not been successful in meeting the set targets for the intensification of the national economy. The necessary condition is to fulfill the Eighth 5-Year Plan and adapt to the requirements, trends, and the rapid world progress. Moreover, in addition to this, we must earnestly work on the long-term outlook up to the year 2000 and concretize the restructuring principles of the economic mechanism, which is one of the most important prerequisites for the dynamic development of society and the growth of the population's standard of living.

In the next part of his speech, Lubomir Strougal answered deputies' questions concerning the development of direct relations between Czechoslovak enterprises and economic production units and enterprises in the USSR and the other socialist countries, the pricing policy, the consumer goods supply for the domestic market, some legislative plans, supplier-user relations, modernization of production, and the environment. He stressed that the government devotes regular attention to these issues and problems, and the planned measures connected with the restructuring of the economic mechanism and the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan are designed to help solve them.

In the closing part of his speech, he welcomed the deputies' frank and matter-of-fact recommendations pertaining to the activity of the federal government, and assured his listeners that the CSSR Government will do all it can to ensure tht the ideas of the 17th CPCZ Congress contained in the program declaration are consistently implemented in life.

JAKES, HOFFMANN ADDRESS 19 MAR URO SESSION

AU301517 Prague PRACE in Czech 20 Mar 87 pp 1, 3

["R"-signed report: "The 18th Plenary Session of the Central Trade Union Council (URO) Convened"]

[Text] Prague -- The 18th URO Plenary session opened in Prague yesterday afternoon [19 March]. Its agenda includes a discussion on cadre issues; the assessment of the trade unions' contribution to the accomplishment of the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan; the escalation of the working people's participation in management and in the implementation of socialist principles of remuneration; as well as a discussion on the URO budget, statewide special-purpose funds, and the special-purpose facilities of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement (ROH); and a general survey of the budgets of higher trade union agencies for 1987.

The plenary session was opened by Vaclav Bezel, URO deputy chairman and chairman of the Czech Trade Union Council (COR). He cordially welcomed the CPCZ Central Committee delegation, headed by Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and Central Committee secretary. The other members of the delegation were CPCZ Central Committee Secretary Jindrich Polednik and Miroslav Zavadil, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat.

The participants in the plenary session paid tribute to the memory of URO member Comrade Josef Zaruba, former member of the URO Presidium and chairman of the Central Committee of the Metals Industry Workers Trade Union, who died unexpectedly on 14 March.

Comrade Milos Jakes, head of the CPCZ Central Committee delegation, spoke on the first item on the agenda. He briefed the 18th URO plenary meeting on the conditions of the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session, which also included the election of Comrade Karel Hoffmann, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and former URO chairman, to the post of CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat member and Central Committee secretary. Comrade Jakes expressed high appreciation for Comrade Karel Hoffmann's work in his function as URO chairman, the fact that he headed the ROH for a full 16 years, acquiring significant personal merits for consolidating its unity and action ability, and his activity for the benefit of the socialist society and the working people. Comrade Karel Hoffmann's many years of successful work in the international trade union movement was also sifnificant. Comrade Milos Jakes presented a proposal on bahalf of the CPCZ Central Committee to the URO plenary session to release Comrade Karel Hoffmann from his trade union functions and to elect to these posts Comrade Miroslav Zavadil, a comrade with firm principles and an experienced political worker who is consistently asserting the CPCZ's policy. He recalled Comrade Zavadil's many years of work in social organizations, in which he fully proved his talents and manifested his direct attitude with regard to the working people's interests; and expressed the conviction that Comrade M. Zavadil has all the qualities for successfully coping with the responsible function of URO chairman.

Eight comrades spoke in the discussion. They expressed high appreciation for the many years of meritorious work carried out by Comrade Karel Hoffmann in his function as URO chairman and wished him much success in his responsible party function. At the same time they expressed agreement with the proposed candidacy of Comrade Miroslav Zavadil for the post of URO chairman, and assured him of their full support in his demanding job.

Comrade Karel Hoffmann also spoke in the discussion. He thanked the URO member and all members and functionaries of the ROH for working for the benefit of the socialist society in the interests of our working people. Without their active participation, he said, it would have been impossible to achieve the undoubted results which the URO and the entire ROH have done and which they will submit to the 11th National Trade Union Congress. He wished the ROH and the new chairman much success in its new phase of work.

After a discussion, the 18th URO plenary session approved the proposal submitted for releasing Comrade Karel Hoffmann from his function as URO chairman, member of the URO Presidium and Secretariat, and member of the URO plenum.

Then the plenary session carried out the election of the new URO chairman by ballot. Comrade Miroslav Zavadil was unanimously elected URO member and chairman, Presidium member, and Secretariat member.

After the announcement of the election results, the newly elected URO chairman expressed his gratitude for the trust shown in him. I am aware, he said, of the glorious history of Czechoslovak trade unions, which have always stood at the side of the CPCZ in the fight for a better future for our people. I also understand this in relation to the present, to the fact that the trade unions have accomplished a great deal during the last few years. Comrade Miroslav Zavadil then expressed the conviction that the approaching 11th National Trade Union Congress will have a great deal to say about the trade unions' activities in the new phase of implementing the ROH's Leninist mission.

HUSAK RECEIVES PEOPLE'S PARTY DELEGATION

LD280636 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, president of the Republic, and chairman of the Central Committee of the National Front, received a delegation of the forth Congress of the Czechoslovak People's Party, headed by party Chairman Zbynek Zalman, in Prague Castle today. Present at the meeting were Comrade Josef Kempny, the head of the delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee and the Central Committee of the National Front of the Czech SR to the Fourth Congress of the Czechsolovak People's Party, and other representatives.

Zbynek Zalman, chairman of the Czechoslovak People's Party, conveyed to Comrade Husak warm greetings from the congress delegates. Zalman briefed Husak on the course of the congress and stressed that like all preparations for the congress, its deliberations were also taking place in an atmosphere of unequivocal agreement and support for the program of accelerating social and economic development adopted by the 17th CPCZ Congress, a program which the entire National Front also adopted as its own. At the same time Zalman assured Gustav Husak that all organizations, members, and officials of the Czechoslovak People's Party are resolved to contribute most effectively to the program's fulfillment. A broad scope for this is provided by the National Front, enabling members of the Czechoslovak People's Party and all our citizens to participate actively in the shaping of state policy and the decisionmaking processes concerning public affairs. He handed to Gustav Husak a message of greetings from the delegates to the Fourth Congress of the Czechoslovak People's Party addressed to the CPCZ central Committee at the close of his speech.

Gustav Husak sincerely thanked Zalman for the greetings from the congress delegates and for the confidence and creatively active support by members of the Czechoslovak People's Party for the policy of the CPCZ and the National Front. He paid tribute to the activity of the Czechoslovak People's Party during the past period, to the contribution by the party's organizations and members to building a socialist society and to shaping and implementing the National Front's policy in the fulfillment of the election program.

Gustav Husak then went on to talk about the tasks our socialist society is currently tackling. He stressed that the realization of the resolutions adopted by the 17th party congress, whose basis is the program for accelerating the economic and social development of the country and its society, is in full accord with the urgent requirements of the time and the demands of the current stage of building socialist society. Above all, it calls for restructuring the economic mechanism and other areas of our society's life' a more resolute and faster application of the intensification factors, especially of scientific and technological progress, as discussed broadly during the recent fifth session of the CPCZ Central Committee, and a more resolute elimination of shortcomings in all sectors of our society's life. All this is also a prerequisite for the further growth of the material and spiritual level of our people, the strengthening of their securities of life, and the elevation of the entire life of our society to a qualitatively higher plane. The attainment of these objective will strengthen socialism not only in our country but also within the framework of the entire socialist community and will contribu e to the growth of the authority of Czechoslovakia and of socialism in the world.

The decisive force in realizing this highly demanding program, Gustav Husak went on to say, are people and their creative energy, their active, enterprising and committed participation in socialist construction, the shaping of the state policy, and the management of society. This is why we are placing such emphasis on the profound democratization of the social life and on the citizens being broadly informed so that all of them know well our intentions, are able to voice their views on then, set about implementing them with the deep conviction about their correctness and importance and with the feeling of higher personal and joint responsibility.

In this context Gustav Husak singled out the importance of the continues improvement of the political, organizational, and ideological work in all organizations of the National Front. The line to strengthen socialism and to perfect the democratization of our society is closely linked with the deepening of the National Front's position in our entire political system and with the galvanization of its bodies and components in regions, districts, and all localities, Gustav Husak went on to say. The issue is for the National Front and its components to be increasingly effective in discharging the front's mission of a broad base for cooperation between workers, farmers, and the intelligentsia, for cooperation between Communists and member of other political parties and people without any party affiliation, for nurturing close bonds between our nations and ethnic minorities.

In this connection Gustav Husak paid tribute to the positive role played by the Czechoslovak People's Party in all levels of the National Front's work.

At the close of the friendly conversation he asked members of the delegation to convey to the participants of the Fourth Congress of the Czechoslovak People's Party sincere treetings from the CPCZ leadership, the National Front, and him personally, coupled with the wishes that the deliberations of the congress may be successful and further common work for the benefit of the flourishing of our socialist homeland.

SLOVAK CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING

Opening Session

LD301801 Prague CTK in Enlgish 1452 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Bratislava March 30 (CTK) -- A two-day session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia opened here today. It is discussing a report of the party presidium on the implementation of the resolutions of the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the latest congress of the Slovak Communist Party concerning acceleration of scientific-technological development in the conditions of Slovakia, one of the two republics of the Czechoslovak federation.

The session, opened by Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member, first secretary of the Communist Party of Slovakia Jozef Lenart, is attended by Czechslovak Communist Party Presidium member and Central Committee Secretary Milos Jakes.

The main report presented to the session provided a comprehensive assesament of the results of Slovakia's scientific-technologicl development and laid down further line of action in extending the use of this decisive intensification factor. It noted that despite many positive phenomena in the implementation of the 1983 resolution from the 8th session of the Czecholsovak Communist Party Central Committee, scientific-technological progress has not developed in corresponding links with economic mechanisms, including international relations, nor have economic conditions been ensured for its practical development.

The report, delivered by Slovak Communist Party Central Committee Secretary Miloslav Aruskovic, characterized the socio-economic development in Slovakia in the last three years, with special emphasis on 1986 as the first year of the 8th Five-Year Plan period.

Although a clearly rising trend has been recorded, some intentions of key importance have not been achieved and even scientific-technological development did not help improve the fulfilment of tasks. The task to ensure a 2-2.5 fold increase in new production by applying the results of research is not being consistently implemented.

Miloslav Hruskovic stressed the need to accelerate structural changes in the economy in favour of engineering, electrical engineering, speicalized chemcial production and some branches of the consumer industries. Acceleration of socio-economic development requires more distinct progress in the international division of labour and socialist economic integration. The report listed the science-and-production corporation Robot in Presov, east Slovakia and the joint Czechoslovak-Soviet laboratory for biotechnologies in Nitra, west Slovakia as good examples of implementation of the comprehensive program of scientific-technological progress of the socialist countries.

Resolution, Cadre Changes

LD312247 Prague CTK in English 1532 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Bratislava March 31 (CTK) -- The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia ended its two-day session today. It was also attended by Milos Jakes, Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member and Central Committee secretary. [passage omitted]

The Central Committee voiced its full agreement with steps taken by the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee in the implementation of the resolutions of the party's 17th congress and the tasks of the eighth five-year plan, and with tasks linked to the realization of the latest conference of the top party representatives from the countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). It joined the stand of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee which appreciated the revolutionary contribution of the January session of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee.

The Slovak Communist Party Central Committee adopted a resolution, saying that developments to date have fully confirmed the correctness and justification of the resolution on acceleration of socio-economic development, quicker development of science and technology and the application of their results in practice.

The fulfilment of the exacting tasks set by the 17th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, the latest congress of the Slovak Communist Party and the fifth session of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee requires acceleration of structural changes, primarily in the processing industry, especially engineering, electrical engineering, specialized chemical production, biological technologies and other progressive branches. The use of domestic raw materials is also needed. Attention must be focused on proportional and structural changes in the scientific-technological potential with priority being given to the most progressive branches.

The Slovak Communist Party Central Committee resolution went on to say that the stage now being entered needs deeper activity of all party bodies and organizations, of all communists.

A creative social climate must be urgently formed to stimulate even more efficiently the activity of work teams and individuals. As stressed at annual meetings of party members, political and organizing, ideological and educational, and mass political work must be further developed.

The Central Committee approved several cadre changes. It relieved Jan Janik of his functions of member of the Presidium and the Secretariat and secretary of the Slovak Communist Party Central Committee, as he had been elected deputy chairman of its House of Nations. The Central Committee elected Ignac Janak its secretary and Secretariat member, and made several changes in the composition of Central Committee commissions.

CZECH NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETS IN PRAGUE 30 MAR

Kempny Introduces Adamec

LD302029 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0800 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Deputies of the Czech National Council have gathered in Prague today for their first session this spring. Lubos Lidicky reports directly from the Palace of Culture on the proceedings:

[Lidicky] At the beginning of today's session, Josef Kempny, chairman of the Czech National Council, introduced the deputies to Ladislav Adamec, the new premier of the Czech Government.

He thanked the outgoing premier, Josef Korcak, for his years-long, fruitful cooperation with this legislative body, when he headed the highest executive body of the Czech SR.

There are two items on the agenda of today's proceedings: a Czech Government report on the implementation of scientific and technological development in fulfilling the tasks set in the Eighth 5-Year Plan, and a Czech National Council government-sponsored bill on state care for the preservation of historical monuments.

Czech Vice Premier Frantisek Sramek spoke on the first item of the agenda. He said that the results of the last year showed that the development of our economy through intensification is not being fully ensured. Instability in material and technological supplies persists. Mutual supplies are in considerable disharmony in terms of range, volume and timetable. Production does not follow a regular rhythm and stocks are rising. Unfavorable tendencies in capital investment and in the utilization of the existing production capacities is deepening. A chief task now is to halt these tendencies. The government has been devoting special attention to this state of affairs. This is why it is necessary to formulate a plan in all sectors to accelerate innovations and to use initiative in resolutely implementing them. All authorities must share in the strategy for speeding social and economic development. The government is not going to permit creative ideas to be replaced by stereotyped ones. There exists enough reserve and potential to enable us to cope with the tasks better than before.

The government's report will be followed by a debate.

Deputies Endorse Resolutions

LD302035 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1600 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] The deputies of the Czech National Council discussed in the Prague Palace of Culture today the implementation of scientific-technical progress in the implementation of the tasks of the Eighth 5-year plan and the comprehensive program of scientific-technological progress of the CEMA countries up to the year 2000 in the spheres controlled by the Czech Government.

The deputies endorsed a resolution which said that all society faces a number of demanding tasks the tackling of which cannot be delayed: the restructuring of the economic mechanism, the creation of economic prerequisites for the implementation of the social program, and the deepening of democratization of society. All this requires increased efforts in working out and implementing the conclusions of the CPCZ Central Committee, says the resolution.

The deputies then unanimously approved the Czech National Council government bill on state care for monuments.

FURTHER COVERAGE OF USSR CULTURE MINISTER'S VISIT

Received by Honecker

LD010848 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1439 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Berlin, 31 Mar (ADN) -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received USSR Culture Minister Vasiliy Zakharov today for a talk on the development of cultural cooperation between the GDR and the Soviet Union.

During the meeting, which took place in a friendly and open atmosphere, Erich Honecker explained how the decisions of the 11th congress are creatively translated into practice, particularly in the sphere of art and culture. The 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution is also being prepared by GDR cultural workers with numerous new works and artistic achievements as a joint celebration by our fraternal countries.

Vasiliy Zakharov, who heads a Soviet delegation to the joint GDR-Soviet government commission for cultural cooperation in Berlin, outlined the cultural development and processes in the Soviet Union following the 27th CPSU Congress. He described how the CPSU and the entire Soviet people, including cultural workers, are approaching the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution with new achievements.

The two sides agree that cooperation in the cultural sphere is important for the further deepening of fraternal relations. The joint government commission has the task of lending fresh and creative impetus to cooperation. Erich Honecker said that great responsibility is invested in the joint work of the two countries' artists in the struggle for peace, detente and disarmament.

The talks was attended by Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee; GDR Culture Minister Hans-Joachim Hoffmann, and Vyacheslav Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR.

Signs Cooperation Protocol

LD010855 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1650 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Berlin, 31 Mar (ADN) -- The 2-day talks of the joint GDR-USSR government commission on cultural cooperation ended in Berlin today with the signing of a protocol. The document on the results and further work of the commission was signed by Culture Minister Dr Hans-Joachim Hoffmann, head of the GDR section, and Culture Minister Prof Dr Vasiliy Zakharov, head of the USSR section of the commission. The protocol, the minister stressed, introduced a new phase in relations between the two countries in the intellectual and cultural sphere in the spirit of the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and the 27th CPSU Congress.

During the first session of the commission since it was set up in 1986 in Moscow, cooperation in the sphere of art and culture and in higher education was discussed. Recommendations for a more effective shaping of cultural and scientific exchanges were adopted.

PEACE COUNCIL DISCUSSES CHEMICAL-WEAPONS BAN

AU271923 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26 Mar 87 p 2

[Excerpts] East Berlin (ADN) -- On Wednesday [25 March] the advisory council for a comprehensive ban on chemical weapons, attached to the GDR Peace Council, held a session in Berlin. Its chairman, Karlheinz Lohs, director of the research department for chemical toxicology of the GDR Academy of Sciences, reported on the 12th international Pugwash Seminar on verifying [kontrolla] the nonproduction of chemical weapons. He assessed the forum as an important contribution to substantial progress in the interest of the fastest possible elaboration of a convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons.

He also reported on the course and the results of the fourth Vienna Dialogue on Disarmament and Detente. He called particular attention to the appeal in which the USSR proposals to eliminate the Soviet and American intermediate-range missiles in Europe are welcomed, and the governments of the affected countries are called upon to refrain from all further steps to deploy such weapons, and are requested to free Europe from these systems as quickly as possible. [passage omitted]

The advisory council paid tribute to the flexible approach of the USSR, the GDR, and the other sociaist states at the Geneva disarmament conference, which has resulted in important progress in the working out of a convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons.

NVA TO HOLD COMBAT-TRAINING EXERCISES 10-16 APR

LD311314 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0958 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Berlin, 31 Mar (ADN) -- A troop exercise by the National People's Army [NVA] will take place from 10-16 April 1987 in the Cottbus, Wittenberg, Torgau and Goerlitz areas. Up to 17,000 NVA members will take part in it. It will be led by the deputy minister of national defense and chief of the ground forces command. The purpose of the exercise is to improve the level of troop combat training.

In line with the final document of the Stockholm Conference, all signatory states of the Helsinki Final Act were notified of the exercise. Observers from the CSCE member states have also been invited to it.

SED'S MITTAG ARRIVES IN HANNOVER FOR INDUSTRY FAIR

LD010849 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0801 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Hannover, 1 Apr (ADN) -- Guenter Mittag, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, arrived in Hannover this morning to visit the Industry '87 Hannover Fair. He was invited by the Lower Saxony government.

On his arrival in Hannover, Guenter Mittag said in a statement that the GDR is guided by the recognition that preserving peace is the main goal of all policy and consequently is also the central issue for relations between the GDR and the FRG. In this sense, he said, great importance is attached to trade which links nations, and to economic cooperation. After talks with GDR exhibitors, Guenter Mittag will meet FRG politicians and business representatives.

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON GUYANA NONALIGNED TALKS

LD261642 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0948 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Berlin, 26 Mar (ADN) — The GDR Government has issued a statement on the results of the extraordinary ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries, held from 9-12 March 1987 in Georgetown (Guyana), on the problems of Latin America and the Caribbean and on the "Georgetown Peace Appeal" adopted by that meeting. It was conveyed to Robert Mugabe, prime minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe, as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. It states:

"The proceedings and documents of the meeting are in harmony with the GDR position on peace preservation, on a just solution to regional conflicts, and on guaranteeing the right of the peoples to free and independent development."

The statement adds that the commitment of the conference participants to achieve a political solution to the alarming situation in Central American that respects the norms of international law, meets with the GDR's sympathy and understanding. It shares the assessment about the democratic changes in the region, welcomes the declaration of intent to defend national interests against aggression and external interference, and adds its voice to the demand that the principles of self-determination of the peoples and noninterference in internal affairs be strictly observed, and that any threat or use of force should be renounced.

The GDR regards the results of the consultation of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau in Guyana as an endorsement of the bureau's activities in the foreign policy sphere, the government statement says. "It responds to the appeal by the conference participants to all states and world public opinion for more active solidarity with the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, and for support for the efforts for peace in Central America, by working with all its might for a world-wide coalition of reason and realism. The results of the Georgetown meeting underline the assessment that real possibilities exist for eliminating conflicts and wars among mankind, and opening up a peaceful age in which the peoples can shape their lives in conditions of equal security for all and in the interests of progress."

IRAN'S KHAMENE'I THANKS HONECKER FOR GREETINGS

AU232045 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 20 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ND) — Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic, thanked Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, for his message of greetings on the eighth anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran. The letter says: "I take this opportunity to wish you, Excellency, good health and I pray to the Almighty for happiness and well-being for the GDR people."

MINISTERS TALK WITH IRANIAN DEPUTY MINISTER

AU201254 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 18 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] Leipzig (ND) — GDR Minister Gunter Wysschofsky and Rahim Kolahduz, deptuty minister of industry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, held deliberations on deepening economic and trade relations.

The interlocutors agreed that opportunities for a dynamic development of economic and industrial cooperation exist, particularly in the field of assembly and production cooperation, and discussed ways and opportunities for the further long-term, stable shaping of the economic relations.

The capacity of the GDR's heavy machinery and installation construction industry in building new plants and in rebuilding previously delivered installations -- involving, interalia, equipment for foundries, rolling mills, cement works and refrigerations plants -- was central to the talks which Minister Dr Engineer Hans-Joachim Lauck conducted with Minister Rahim Kolahduz. Further cooperation in the sector of installations and equipment was discussed in this connection.

The Iranian guest discussed delivery of equipment for the manufacture of porcelain with Juergen Marowsky, GDR deputy minister of glass and ceramics industry. He also had talks with Dr Wolfgang Stamm, GDR deputy minister of general chemistry, agricultural machinery, and vehicle construction.

HONECKER GREETS GREEK LEADERS ON NATIONAL DAY

AU261518 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 25 Mar 87 pp 1-2

[Text] East Berlin (ND) -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, sent cordial congratulations on the Greek National Day to the president and the prime minister of the Hellenic Republic. The telegram to President Khristo Sartzetakis reads as follows:

I convey to you and the Greek people most cordial congratulations on the National Day of the Hellenic Republic.

Our two countries are making a confidence-building contribution to the worldwide struggle to preserve peace and to improve the international situation with the constructive dialogue which has received new stimuli from your visit to the GDR.

I am convinced that the relations between the GDR and the Hellenic Republic will continue to develop for the benefit of both peoples.

Mr President, please accept my best wishes for good health and success in your responsible work for the welfare of the Greek people.

Erich Honecker,

General secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council

The telegram to Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou reads as follows:

On the occasion of the National Day of the Hellenic Republic, I convey to you cordial congratulations linked with best wishes for your personal well-being and success in your responsible work for peace and detente in the world as well as for a prosperous development of your country. [paragraph continues]

I am firmly convinced that the fruitful relations between the GDR and the Hellenic Republic, which have experienced a gratifying development over the past years, will continue to deepen and that our two countries will continue to cooperate for the supreme interests of mankind, for a safe life in peace, prosperity, and happiness.

Erich Honecker,

General secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council

HEINZ KESSLER SPEAKS AT FDJ CONFERENCE

AU241021 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 21-22 Mar 87 p 2

[Excerpts] East Berlin (ADN) -- On Friday [20 March] the participants of the delegates conferences of the FDJ organizations in the NVA and in the GDR border troops discussed further tasks in the "FDJ Assignment 11th SED Congress." In a letter to Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council and of the National Defense Council, they assured on behalf of the FDJ members in the Army and in the border troops, in political and combat training, in the ready-alert system, and in the combat and border services, that they will do their best every day for the protection of peace and of the socialist achievements. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, stressed that in view of the still tense international situation the initiatives of the FDJ organizations are gaining more and more importance. One of their priority tasks is to develop a clear political standpoint in all army members and border soldiers with regard to the meaning of being a soldier in socialism and to arouse the readiness for high performances.

Eberhard Aurich, first secretary of the FDJ Central Council, thanked the members of the FDJ in the NVA and in the GDR border troops for reliably fulfilling the class assignment. [passage omitted]

The conference was attended by Central Committee Department heads Wolfgang Herger and Gerd Schulz.

REPORTS OF SHOTS ON GDR-W. BERLIN BORDER DENIED

LD231346 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1226 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Berlin, 23 Mar (ADN) -- There is no foundation to the report put out by media in Berlin (West) on the weekend concerning alleged shots on the state border of the GDR and Berlin (West).

ROMANIAN TREATMENT OF MINORITIES TO BE CRITICIZED

AU311137 Paris AFP in English 1133 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 31 (AFP) -- Hungary intends to speak out about the problems of the Hungarian minority living in Romania, Hungarian Culture Minister Bela Koepeczi said in a recent interview here with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The situation of this minority "has recently deteriorated and Hungary has been unable to solve the problem through diplomatic channels" the minister said.

Open criticism of Romania's treatment of ethnic Hungarians may violate the unwritten code which stipulates that an East bloc nation should not speak out against another, observers here noted.

About two million ethnic Hungarians live in Romania. Many have complained of being discriminated against by Bucharest and the dispute between the two countries has become more open over the past months.

Romanian authorities have charged Budapest with "chauvinism, fascism and racism", while Hungary has dismissed the accusations as "slander".

Mr Koepeczi said that his government was now counting on the "moral and legal" support of "various international groups, in particular those of the Helsinki Final Act."

In early March, Hungary supported a Canadian resolution on the rights of minorities at the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. (CSCE).

This was the first time that a Warsaw Pact member had supported a North Atlantic Treaty Organization country on a human rights issue.

Mr. Koepeczi, who comes from Transylvania, where most of Romania's ethnic Hungarians live, gave several examples of what he sees as the worsening of the minority's situation.

He cited "the flow of ethnic Hungarians who want to leave Romania to live in Hungary, the decrease of teaching in Hungarian and a general climate of oppression of the use of that language, the dispersal throughout Romania of intellectuals and the 'Romanianization' of historical monuments".

He also pointed out that 102 Hungarian newspapers, including the Hungarian Communist Party daily, were banned in Romania.

He said there had been a "cooling" of relations between Budapest and Bucharest, adding that "many promises" made ten years ago when the leaders of both countries, Janos Kadar and Nicolae Ceausescu, last met, "have not been kept".

One of every three Hungarian families has relatives in Romania and their fate is a closely-followed and sensitive issue here, a senior communist party official said.

Public opinion and groups of intellectuals have been placing increasing pressure on the Hungarian Government to speak out in favor of the minority in Romania, observers said.

A "history of Transylvania", published here late last year by the Academy of Science under Mr. Koepeczi's guidance sold out despite its high price and a new edition is planned.

Transylvania, which was incorporated into Romania at the end of the Second World War, "is still a part of Hungary's culture", Mr. Koepeczi wrote in a preface to the book.

However, the book has been called "offensive" by Romanians, who have said it was a "to challenge Romania's territorial integrity".

The official position of Bucharest on the issue is that all members of minorities in the country enjoy the same rights as other Romanians.

DAILY VIEWS WARSAW PACT MINISTERS' MEETING

AU310851 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 27 Mar 87 p 3

[Article by Jozsef Szaszi: "Program"]

[Text] The almost 1 and 1/2 years that have passed since the previous session of the Warsaw Pact foreign ministers are replete with events that both raise hopes and represent a forewarning.

Thanks to the Soviet proposals made at the end of February, which opened up the "Reykjavik package", an agreement on intermediate-range missiles stationed in Europe could be worked out in a few months, provided the Western powers come up with a constructive attitude. All we have to do is to solve certain technical problems a task that is not difficult if the United States and its NATO-allies show enough political will. The temporary shock caused by the lack of success in Reykjavik has dissipated relatively quickly, with action occurring in the various disarmament and arms limitation forums for months. One can read numerous reports in the world press containing speculations (which hopefully are not without foundation) about a possible new Soviet-U.S. summit this year. High-level, and even top-level, contacts between the Eastern and Western parts of Europe have increased (Margaret Thatcher's long-due visit to Moscow at the end of March, to mention only one example).

In the spirit of the further development and deepening of the pan-European process, the participants in the Vienna follow-up conference submitted a long list of positive proposals, some of them jointly initiated by socialist, NATO, EEC, and nonaligned and neutral countries. We appreciate this as a positive new phenomenon in the Helsinki process. The successful completion of the Stockholm conference last fall, and the participants -- often putting aside unjustified and ridiculous objections -- reaching a constructive confidence-building agreement are often mentioned as examples of political good will aimed at achieving a total agreement. This Stockholm spirit, among other things, should be advanced with practical measures in the framework of a forum which would receive its negotiating mandate from the current Vienna talks.

Let us not forget, however, the signs of caution and worry! There is the fact, for example, that the United States was not willing to follow the Soviet example and stubbornly continued its underground nuclear tests. This forced the Soviet Union to renew its own nuclear arms tests at the beginning of this year in the interest of its own security. Washington continues to force the Star Wars plan, the so-called SDI, which prevented agreement being reached in Reykjavik.

The beginning of this article mentioned events that raise hopes, and others that represent a forewarning. [paragraph continues]

This short inventory contains, however, rather more of the hopeful events. If we thoroughly study the two documents issued after the 2-day meeting of the Warsaw Pact foreign ministers in Moscow -- the Communique and the Statement dealing with the Vienna conference -- everyone is left, first of all, with the fundamental impression of their calm tones, modest and resolute fairness, and their healthy optimistic concept. And one more thing: Although these two documents represent a step forward when compared to similar earlier documents, both in their style and content, they continue to be characterized by the fact that the fate of the European Continent lies at the heart of them. The name of the old continent of Europe is perhaps the most frequently used word in these documents, and this is understandable. Europe was the cradle of the historically important detente process that peaked in the middle of the seventies in Helsinki; there is no doubt that this continent should continue to show an example, too, in order to make it easier for the new elements of detente to gain the upper hand in the system of international relations.

At the Moscow talks, the foreign ministers expressed their conviction that "the Soviet Union and the United States should sign a separate agreement as soon as possible, an agreement that would completely eliminate U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range missiles from Europe."

European disarmament and the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe was also the main subject and the one discussed in most detail in the Statement on the activity of the Vienna conference. The ministers supported the initiatives aimed at widening the possibilities of economic and scientific and technical cooperation (for example, the plan for an economic forum in Prague), and developing humanitarian cooperation, including the idea of convening a forum in Moscow to deal with this subject. In other words, the second and the third "basket" are also adequately represented in this document. However, the key sentence of the Statement dealing with the follow-up conference in Vienna is the one that stressed the following: "The conclusion of the Vienna conference with important and concrete results would create favorable conditions for progress in negotiations on the issues of limiting and reducing nuclear arms and avoiding the militarization of space; and it would also advance the implementation of initiatives aimed at creating nuclear- and chemical-weapons-free zones in Europe."

Let us add to all this that, as hosts of last year's Warsaw Pact summit, we are also interested in advancing the implementation of the proposals included in the Budapest Appeal in the field of practical deeds. We regard it as important to implement the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe as soon as possible. The foreign ministers' forum in Moscow also adopted a position in this spirit.

Perhaps we are attributing too much importance to the military policy issues connected with the activity of the foreign ministers' committee. However, it has become clear that to also make progress in the second and third "basket" issues, it is above all necessary to reduce the level of military confrontation and to strengthen confidence. The limitation and elimination of the threat of military confrontation is also necessary for a more efficient assertion of the process of renewal that is now going on in the socialist world, primarily in the Soviet Union. We are talking about the total of reforms and new approaches that have already mobilized many forces in the socialist half of Europe, in both domestic and foreign policy issues, including the concept of security, the importance of actions aimed at fostering the dialogue between East and West, and other issues.

The meeting in Moscow not only proved again the Warsaw Pact member countries' readiness for genuine dialogue, but also contained a concrete program for such a dialogue. We sincerely hope that in the NATO countries (and the neutral and nonaligned ones) we will find partners ready for a serious and genuine dialogue.

BARITY EXPLAINS RESULTS OF WARSAW PACT MEETING

AU311325 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 28 Mar 87 p 2

[Interview with Miklos Barity, deputy foreign minister, by Jozsef Szaszi, deputy editor in chief of MAGYAR HIRLAP: "There Is a Chance for Positive Development" -- date and place not given]

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Miklos Barity, who was a member of the Hungarian delegation at the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers' Committee session in Moscow on 25 and 26 March, gave an interview to Jozsef Szaszi, deputy editor in chief of our paper, in which he summarized the results of the confidence and analyzed the adopted documents.

[Szaszi] How would you summarize the most significant proposals and results of the Moscow session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers' Committee?

[Barity] The accelerated pact of international affairs requires a regular review of major European and international issues. The Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers' Committee holds a session once every 6 months. At their recent discussion the foreign ministers concentrated on the most significant and most current international questions. These included averting the nuclear threat, promoting the disarmament process, consolidating European and universal security, and developing international cooperation.

At the conference the ministers concluded that there is a chance for positive developments in solving the vital questions of mankind. Apart from the complicated elements in international affairs, there is a possibility of finding a favorable development process; a suitable framework for this is provided by the far-reaching peace and disarmament proposals of the Soviet Union. These initiative fully concur with the interests of the Warsaw Pact member states, and thus with the interests of our homeland. The Warsaw Pact countries support implementing the Soviet proposals made in Reykjavik, beginning with nuclear disarmament, and within this context, setting Europe completely free of nuclear arms. The Soviet Union is ready -- and this was much welcomed by the participants at the meeting -- to make an early agreement with the United States of America to completely eliminate all medium-range missiles from Europe, and to negotiate about the reduction of strategic missiles.

The conference adopted a separate declaration on banning chemical weapons. The Warsaw Pact considers it possible to draft and adopt as early as this year an international convention on the total ban of mass destruction weapons. We would like to see this become a reality.

Parallel to the nuclear disarmament process, negotiations must begin as soon as possible toward radically reducing the armed forces and conventional weaponry throughout the entire continent of Europe. Last year we clearly expressed in the Budapest Appeal what our ideas were; now we have reconfirmed their validity and our seriousness regarding their negotiation. We favor a phased reduction of the European military confrontation, and the maintenance of an ever-decreasing balance of military forces. We think that the disproportions regarding certain elements in the military balance must and can be equalized through suitable reductions. This, of course, presupposes the NATO states' interests in their own security. We hope that there will be a chance for a covergence of views on the basis of equal and mutual security.

[Szaszi] The Moscow meeting adopted separate declarations on the development of the all-European process and on the successful conclusion of the Vienna meeting. Why did the foreign ministers consider it necessary to specially emphasize these issues?

[Barity] The representatives of the Warsaw Pact member states have again reconfirmed their commitment to further strengthen the all-European process. They see in this process great resources, and a lot of people can do for a dynamic development in the all-European process. There is a good opportunity to achieve this at the Vienna follow-up meeting. At this meeting we have arrived at a point where it is necessary to demonstrate responsible actions impregnated with a political will to reach a successful conclusion and practical results.

There are realistic opportunities at the Vienna meeting to reach balanced and constructive agreements in "all three baskets" of the Helsinki Final Act. Results have already been reached in this all-European process to increase the security of our continent. As an example, I would like to mention the promising conclusion of the Stockholm conference on measures to increase security and confidence. It is possible to advance in this field by drafting more confidence-building measures and starting disarmament talks as soon as possible. A mandate for future European disarmament talks must be adopted at the Vienna meeting. I would like to recall that the PPR has made a proposal on expanding the mandate of the Stockholm conference, and this proposal is supported by the Warsaw Pact member states. The unofficial consultations between NATO and Warsaw pact delegation representatives in Vienna are rendering assistance in drafting the mandate for disarmament talks.

[Szaszi] How do the Warsaw Pact member states regard the chances for development regarding the subjects of the other two "baskets"?

[Barity] The Moscow conference reviewed the questions related to the "second basket," that is, to the development of economic cooperation. Both the socialist countries and the other participants in the Vienna meeting have advanced a lot of substantial and useful proposals which are now on the table. We are making efforts to find the common elements in these proposals and to the achieve concrete progress and reach agreements to further develop European economic, scientific and technological cooperation.

Proceeding from the new, general concept of security which extends equally to the military, political, economic, and humanitarian issues, we consider it important to also make the Vienna follow-up meeting a success with regard to human rights and humanitarian questions.

If we fully observe and strictly adhere to all the principles of the Helsinki Final Document, we may, with mutual political will, achieve progress. The Soviet proposal on convening a conference in Moscow to deal with humanitarian cooperation is of great significance. In addition to the proposals of the socialist countries, initiatives were also jointly submitted on various topics by socialist countries and countries with different social systems. Several countries were also coauthors of the Hungarian proposal on promoting the translation, publication, and distribution of literature wiritten in less popular languages. A Hungarian-Austrian proposal deals with the establishment of a Bartok folklore center in Budapest. One could go on listing the various proposals, but the important thing is that we judge these proposals constructively, and reach agreements mutually acceptable to all participating countries.

GASPAR RETURNS FROM WFTU WARSAW SESSION

LD301917 Budapest MTI in English 1821 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 30 (MTI) — President of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) Sandor Gaspar, president of the Hungarian Council of Trade Unions, returned from Warsaw Monday where he attended the 37th session of the Bureau of WFTU.

WALESA EXPECTED TO VISIT ITALY, JOHN PAUL II

AU311054 Rome ANSA in English 1030 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] (ANSA) Warsaw, March 31 — Polish labour leader Lech Walesa expects to begin a week-long visit to Italy April 22 on an invitation extended to him from Italy's three major trade union federations, CGIL, CISL AND UIL.

The leader of the banned "Solidarnosc" trade union, and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, told ANSA here yesterday that he had received the official invitation from the Italian labour federations last Saturday. The Italian labor organisations have asked that Walesa take part in a seminar they are organising in Rome on the role of trade unions in society.

On Wednesday, Walesa is set to appear before Polish Government authorities who will decide whether or not to give him and his wife, Danuta, permission to leave the country. Walesa, if he is granted a passport, will thus visit Italy before Pope John Paul II's scheduled June visit to his Polish homeland and not after, as previously reported.

While in Italy, Walesa will be received by the pontiff together with the leaders of the three Italian trade union federations.

GOVERNMENT ADOPTS ACTS 'CUSHIONING' PRICE HIKES

LD310827 Warsaw PAP in English 0045 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Warsaw, March 30 — The Government Presidium acting under the authorization of the Council of Ministers has today adopted draft legal acts cushioning the financial consequences of price hikes — especially with regard to the lowest-income groups of the population.

Family allowances, supporting parents' and nursing benefits and social welfare benefits are going up as of April 1, this year. Indexed payments for recipients of payments from the alimony fund are also being increased. Allowances from plant social care funds for people working in especially health hazardous conditions are being increased. Trip allowances for domestic business trips are also going up.

Next the Government Presidium acquainted itself with information in the implementation of the Sejm resolution of 1982 on the disabled. The hitherto activities have made it possible to, for instance, create job openings for disabled and handicapped people in the system of manufacturing and services.

Employment policies with regard to disabled and handicapped people in the system of manufacturing and services. Employment policies with regard to disabled and handicapped people also make use of constant perfection of the system of work incentives in short-supply vocations and increasing the number of work posts for disabled.

The Government Presidium has acquainted itself with an evaluation of the implementation of laws on job safety and hygiene. The Government Presidium stated that it was necessary to combat negligence of work safety regulations by employees.

The Government Presidium acquainted itself with the realization of the programme of the targets of the national socio-economic plan in the field of supplying the country in medications and medical equipment and apparatus. This supply is still insufficient, even though the domestic production of medical components is systematically growing.

Nonetheless, negative changes in the demographic structure, an increase in the number of civilizational diseases and wasteful use of medications stemming from a lack of incentives to save them, cause that an increase in production does not cover social needs.

Financial and economc conditions for the implementation of accelerated investment project tasks in the chemical industry and health care are envisaged. The production of medications, and medical apparatus and equipment in co-production with foreign companies will be developed to a greater degree.

The Government Presidium adopted a draft resolution of the Council of Ministers on developing and better utilizing the potential of small business.

The Government presidium adopted a draft decree of the Council of Ministers on the general principles of housing construction crediting.

The proposed solutions create conditions for the development of all forms of housing construction. They aim at creating conditions which would allow each family to obtain their own flat through their own efforts and with the assistance of the state.

The Government Presidium acquainted itself with information on the results of the control of the realization of tasks in the field of electronizing the national economy in 1983-1986. A qualitative and quantitative increase in production was recorded in this period. The key targets, nevertheless, in the electronization programme have not been reached. This especially pertains to an increase in the production of materials, sub-assemblies and technological equipment which make up the so-called electronization base.

The Government Presidium made a decision approving a programme to electronize national economy in 1986-1990 whose implementation will make it possible to almost double the value of electronic industry products in five years.

The Government Presidium studied preparations to start the 1987-1988 school year. Outlays on education will be higher by 63 billion zlotys as compared with 1986. The wages of employees of education are to be indexized and employment in this branch is to grow. Over 2,800 classrooms in primary schools and over 21,600 places in kindergartens will be handed over for use.

GOVERNMENT GIVES RES PUBLICA PUBLISHING RIGHTS

AU312012 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1600 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Report of interview with RES PUBLICA chief editor (Krol) by Joana Radzyner; date and place not given; (Krol) statements in Polish, fading into German translation, within quotation marks — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Last week RES PUBLICA received its official right to publish. But editor (Krol's) pleasure is shared by only a few of his old comrades from the Polish underground publishing movement.

"Martial law has led to an extremely sharp polarization within Poland's society, a polarization far more serious than during the period of Stalinism that posed a much greater threat to people's existence. Times have changed, however, and it is quite obvious that such a polarization must vanish gradually when the danger decreases. In this connection I think, for instance, of the amnesty that was granted to political prisoners 9 months ago. The feeling of danger has doubtlessly decreased since that time. How strange it must seem in the present situation to maintain the warfare of positions between government and opposition.

"The question to be asked today is: How will things continue? For my part, I am sort of pessimistic. I do not believe that the system will change radically. But at the same time I believe that a central sphere will develop which will become stronger and stronger. This center is not to be understood in terms of a political direction but in intellectual terms. Political power will continue to be exercized by the party but gradually the authorities will allow the development of something like an independent citizens' society."

For RES PUBLICA editor (Krol) it is today not a question of betraying Solidarity's great ideas. On the contrary, according to his assessment, Poland's society has emerged with such strength from the Solidarity experience that today it can accept compromises with the political leadership without any fears.

"Of course our experiment holds great risks. But I am convinced that we are best off when there are as many pianos as possible on which we can play. Because today not just one possible tactic or one way exists for the opposition. The larger the room for maneuver between government and the so-called opposition is, the easier it is to develop a pluralistic society. Without any doubt, the underground publishing movement is very useful and it certainly plays an important role. But one thing must not be forgotten: There are clear limits to the underground movement. There are limits with regard to its effect and to the readers it reaches."

The experiment of legality will start in a few months. To ensure independence both from the church and from the state, RES PUBLICA will be managed by a limited liability company. The money for the basic technical equipment, paper and printing must come from private donations and be earned by producing rare bibliophile prints.

Little has been said by professor (Krol) on the ideological direction of the new RES PUBLICA.

"As (Leshek Kolakovski) has already claimed for himself, we are socialist liberal conservatives or conservative liberal socialists. We are against all totalitarian ideologies, that means we reject both communism and nationalism. Otherwise we have no preferences for the right or for the left."

CEAUSESCU PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO ANGOLA

For coverage of the visit of Secretary General Nicolae Ceausescu to the People's Republic of Angola, including reports of his talks with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and the joint communique, see the Southern Africa section of the 31 March Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

DASCALESCU RECEIVES KOSOVO PROVINCE OFFICIAL

AU271931 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1751 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 27/03/1987 -- Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu received, on March 27, Nazmi Mustafa, chairman of the Executive Council of the Assembly of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo of the SFRY, who paid a visit to Romania.

During the talk, emphasis was placed on the fine Romanian-Yugoslav relations of friendship and collaboration and the wish was expressed to further develop them. New ways and practical modalities were examined for the expansion of economic relations on mutually advantageous terms, of cooperation and specialization in production in particular, of technico-scientific collaboration and trade exchanges between the two countries, with the Kosovo Province included.

PRC'S SONG DEFU CALLS UCY TIES 'IMPORTANT'

AU010727 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1818 GMT 31 Mar 87

["Broad Prospects for the Friendly Relations Between the Romanian and Chinese Youth" -- AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES, 31/3/1987 -- "The friendly and cooperative ties between the Communist Youth League of the People's Republic of China and the Union of Communist Youth [UCY] of Romania are an important component of and faithfully reflect the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, parties and peoples", the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of the People's Republic of China, Song Defu, stated in an interview to daily SCINTEIA TINERETULUI in his capacity as leader of the delegation that has recently visited Romania at the invitation of the UCY Central Committee.

Our friendship and collaboration -- the speaker also said -- have passed the exam of history and, therefore, have a durable character. Our friendly relations are grounded on the principles of independence and autonomy, peace and friendship, equality, mutual assistance and knowledge. The cooperation between our two organizations -- the guest further underlined -- fully agrees with the fundamental interests of the youth of our countries. At the same time, it will contribute to the promotion of peace and progress in all the countries of the world. We must evince -- Song Defu said -- that the parties and governments in the two countries attach great importance and actively support the friendly collaboration between the Chinese and Romanian youths. We think that the friendly and cooperative links between the youths of the two countries have broad prospects. We wish to further amplify -- together with our young friends in Romania -- the bilateral exchanges on multiple planes, thus substantially contributing to the development and continual consolidation of the friendship between the Chinese and Romanian peoples and youth.

Speaking about his impressions of the visit, the Chinese guest expressed his admiration for the achievements of the Romanian people and youth.

COMMUNIQUE ON CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO NEPAL

AU201530 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 19 Mar 87 p 3

["Communique on the Official Friendly Visit Paid by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Together With Comrade Elena Ceausescu, to the Kingdom of Nepal" 16-18 March]

[Text] I

Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the SR of Romania, along with Comrade Elena Ceausescu paid an official friendly visit to the Kingdom of Nepal from 16-18 March at the invitation of the king of Nepal, Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, and of Queen Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah.

During the visit the high-ranking Romanian guests enjoyed a cordial and friendly welcome as an expression of the feelings of friendship and esteem harbored for each other by the peoples of the two countries.

Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the SR of Romania, and Comrade Elena Ceausescu met and conducted talks with the king and queen of Nepal in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding. During the talks, the two sides briefed each other on current concerns of the two countries in connection with socioeconomic development and made an in-depth analysis of ways and means to continue developing relations of friendship and cooperation. They also had an extensive exchange of views on current international issues of common interest.

The two sides expressed complete satisfaction with the development of relations of friendship and cooperation between Romania and Nepal based on the principles of strict respect for national independence and sovereignty, full equality of rights, noninterference in domestic affairs and mutual advantage, and each people's inalienable right to independently decide its own road of development, without any outside interference.

During the talks, the two sides stressed the particular importance of the current meeting between the president of Romania and the king of Nepal, and the essential role in concluding the understandings for expanding cooperation between the two countries in areas of common interest. They reaffirmed the desire to take determined action to expand and diversify Romanian-Nepalese relations to ensure their prospects and stability, both bilaterally and in the international arena.

Special attention was paid to bilateral economic relations; both leaders stressed the need to increase trade exchanges and to begin negotiations on economic projects of common interest.

During the visit, the two sides signed a mutual trade exchange which envisages important increases in the volume of Romanian-Nepalese trade.

II

During the exchange of views regarding the present-day world, the two sides expressed their great concern about the current international situation which remains very serious because of the continued arms race, especially the nuclear arms race. [paragraph continues]

Because of the continued expansion of certain military conflicts, the use or threat of force, interference in the domestic affairs of other countries, the world economic crisis and the worsening conditions in the situations of developing countries, especially that of the least-developed countries, the two sides stressed that everything must be done to halt the dangerous trend of events toward confrontation and war, and to resume the policy of peace, detente, independent development, and broad cooperation in the interests of all peoples in the world.

Under the current circumstances, the basic principles of today is halting the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race, and proceeding to effective disarmament measures, preventing the danger of a nuclear war, and ensuring a lasting peace throughout the world.

For this purpose, Romania and Nepal favor the adoption of urgent measures aimed at a stage-by-stage elimination of all nuclear weapons by the end of the century, and a substantial cut in conventional weapons and military troops. The two countries also hold that arms cuts should be coupled with an appropriate reduction of military expenditures, beginning with the most heavily armed countries. The financial resources resulting from cuts in military expenditures should be utilized to support the efforts of the developing countries to ensure their socioeconomic progress.

Nepal has hailed the decision adopted by Romania at President Nicolae Ceausescu's initiative to reduce weapons, troops, and military expenditures by 5 percent, a measure that sets a significant example for efforts to achieve tangible steps in the field of disarmament in Europe and throughout the world.

Romania and Nepel are against the continuation of nuclear testing and demand that responsible action be taken towards a general and total ban on such tests which only tend to aggravate tension and mistrust in current international relations.

Romania and Nepal firmly oppose any measures to militarize outer space; they are for the use of outer space by all nations for only peaceful purposes.

Taking into consideration that the most serious situaton continues to be that in Europe, it is necessary for the United States of America, the USSR, and the European countries to act with great responsibility to achieve an accord on the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear missiles on the continent, as a first step on the road to freeing Europe from any kind of nuclear weapons.

The Socialist Republic of Romania and the Kingdom of Nepal favor the creation of zones of peace and cooperation in the Balkans, in northern and central Europe, and in other parts of the world. Romania positively appreciates and supports the proposal made by King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev in connection with declaring Nepal as a zone of peace.

Expressing concern with the continued escalation of foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean, Romania and Nepal reassert their determination to act toward the urgent application of the UN declaration in connection with turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace; they firmly speak out for the dismantling of all military bases in that area to completely eliminate tension and foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean.

III

During the talks, the two sides stressed the particular danger posed by the preservation of military conflicts and tension in various parts of the world and the need to act with great determination to stop them, and solve all disputes between states solely by peaceful means and through direct negotiations between the states involved.

Examining the Middle East situation, the two sides came to the conclusion that international efforts must be intensified to achieve a global solution to the complex problems in that area and to establish a just and lasting peace based on Israel's withdrawal from the territories occupied in the wake of the 1967 war, the recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination and the creation of their own state, and on guaranteeing the independence and sovereignty of all other states in the region.

Romania and Nepal are for convening a UN-sponsored international peace conference in the Middle East which should be attended by all concerned sides, including the PLO; and they are for creating a preparatory committee for this purpose.

Romania and Nepal are for the immediate cessation of the war between Iran and Iraq, for the renunciation of any military operations, for the withdrawal of troops -- by both sides -- within the internationally recognized borders which existed before the conflict, and for proceeding to negotiations aimed at a peaceful settlement of problems between the two countries in the interest of the Iranian and Iraqi peoples and their free and independent development.

Romania and Nepal reassert their support for and solidarity with the peoples' struggle for freedom and independence against any form of colonialist and neocolonialist policy.

By most firmly condemning the racist and apartheid policy and the measures of repression of the South African authorities against neighboring independent and sovereign states, Romania and Nepal firmly demanded that an urgent halt be put to this policy. At the same time, both countries reaffirm their support for the struggle waged by the Namibian people, under SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] leadership, to achieve independence.

Romania and Nepal believe that an imperative requirement for the peace and security of peoples and for the very future of mankind is the elimination of underdevelopment, the narrowing of the gaps between rich and poor countries, and the establishment of a new world economic order. For this purpose, the two heads of state are for the organization of a UN-sponsored international conference, attended on an equal footing by both the developing and the developed countries, in order to bring about a global solution to the problems of underdevelopment and to establish a new international economic order. Such a conference would be called upon to lead to understandings favoring a more rapid progress of all countries, primarily of lagging ones, a balanced development of each state and of the world economy in general.

Romania and Nepal speak out for strengthening solidarity and ccoperation among the developing countries, and for tangible measures aimed at formulating a common strategy in negotiations with the developed countries.

IV

Today each state, each nation -- big or small -- is responsible for the fate of peace and the human civilization. Romania and Nepal firmly advocate the participation on an equal footing by all states in solving the major problems of the present-day world, and in democratizing relations between states; they speak out for a more active contribution by the developing and nonaligned countries to the cause of detente and cooperation.

Romania and Nepal believe that it is necessary to act to enhance the role of the United Nations in international activity, to increase its contribution to safeguarding peace and security, and to develop cooperation among its member-countries.

Romania and Nepal greatly appreciate the role played by the Nonaligned Movement in solving the serious problems of the present-day world, and in affirming a new and democratic policy of freedom, independence, and respect of each people's right to freely choose its road of socioeconomic development. In promoting an active policy of peace and broad international cooperation based on the principles of full equality of rights, national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs and mutual advantage, Romania and Nepal reaffirm their determination to act in accordance with the basic goals of the Nonaligned Movement and with the efforts made by the nonaligned and developing countries to overcome the problems they face, to strengthen their independence, and ensure their independent socioeconomic development. In this respect, the two countries stressed the importance of the Harare conference of chiefs of state and government and of the decisions adopted on that occasion.

Romania and Nepal stressed the important role played by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) in developing cooperation among the respective countries with a view to solving existing problems, ensuring their socioeconomic progress and improving the standard of living of their own peoples, and with a view to consolidating the economic independence and the policy promoted by those countries.

The talks revealed their common desire to intensify cooperation between Romania and Nepal in the international arena, within the United Nations and its specialized institutes, and within the "Group of 77" and other movements of the nonaligned countries in order to increase their contribution to resolving the major problems of the present-day world, and to promoting peace, security, and international cooperation.

V

The two sides expressed their complete satisfaction with the talks held and the understanding concluded during the visit. They are a valuable contribution to deepening relations of friendship and many-sided cooperation between the two countries in the interests and to the benefit of the Romanian and the Napalese peoples, and to the cause of peace, progress, and international cooperation. They also expressed their joint determination to continue their dialogue at the summit level and to promote the exchange of views, meetings, and contacts at all levels.

The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, together with Comrade Elena Ceausescu, expressed warm thanks to the king and queen of Nepal and to the Nepalese people for the friendly reception and particular hospitality they enjoyed during the official friendly visit to the Kingdom of Nepal.

The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, together with Comrade Elena Ceausescu, extended an invitation to the king of Nepal, Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, and to Queen Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah to pay an official visit to the SR of Romania. The invitation was accepted with pleasure; the date of the visit will be established later through diplomatic channels.

Katmandu, 18 March 1987

PEC ASSESSES CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO ASIAN COUNTRIES

AU201956 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1912 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 20/3/1987 — During the March 20 meeting of the CC of the RCP Executive Political Committee an account was read of the official goodwill visits President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu paid to the Republic of India at the invitation of President Giani Zail Singh and of Prime Minsiter Rajiv Gandhi, to the People's Republic of Bangladesh at the invitation of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and of Mme Ershad, to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma at the invitation of Prresident U San Yu and of Mme San Yu, to the Kingdom of Nepal at the invitation of King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev and of Queen Aishwarya Rajya Devi Shah, and of the friendly meeting in Karachi with the president of the Islamic Repubplic of Pakistan, Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

The Executive Political Committee was highly appreciative of the results of those visits which go down as moment of historical importance in the multilateral development of Socialist Romania's links with the countries visited, as foreign policy actions of the RCP and Romanian state in favour of peace, understanding and peaceful cooperation with all the peoples of the world.

The Executive Political Committee fully approved the activity of the party general secretary and president of the Republic, Nicolae Ceausescu, during those visits appreciating on this occasion, too, his essential contribution to the translation into fact of the orientations and resolutions adopted by the thirteenth party congress on strengthening Romania's cooperation and solidarity with the developing countries in the fight for economic and social progress, for a free and independent development.

The Executive Political Committee assessed with deep satisfaction that through the understandings reached at highest level, through the documents covenanted, those visits opened new prospects for the expansion of the ties of cooperation and collaboration between Romania and the respective countries in the economic, technical, scientific, cultural and other areas on the basis of fully equal rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs and mutual advantage.

The Executive Political Committee underlined the importance of talks and exchange of views Nicolae Ceausescu had with heads of state and government of the countries visited on essential aspects of the international life, the identical or close viewpoints on the problems discussed. President Nicolae Ceausescu reiterated on the occasion the principles that underlie Romania's foreign policy, its constructive positions on the complex problems facing mankind. Stress was laid on the special significance of common assessments according to which the cessation of the arms race and a passage to effective measures of disarmament, of nuclear disarmament in the first place, the prevention of the danger of a nuclear war, the safeguarding of people's right to free and dignified existence, to independence, life and peace are fundamental problems of our days.

The Executive Political Committee underscored the importance of viewpoints during the summit dialogue on the necessity of renouncing force in international relations, solving all conflicts and states of tension in various parts of the world -- in the Middle East, Central America, Asia and other regions -- by political means and through negotiations among the countries interested, starting from the interests of peace and security, from the demands of free and independent development of all peoples, without any outside interference. High appreciation was given to the stances set forth by Romania's President and the leaders of the visited countries in favour of the creation of zones of peace, collaboration and good-neighbourliness, free of nuclear and chemcial weapons in northern and central Europe as well as in other parts of the world, including the Indian Ocean. Empahsis was placed on the importance of the assessments regarding the need for an active, equal participation in the international life of all the states, whatever their size and social system, more particularly of the small and medium-sized countries, of the developing and nonaligned countries which make up the great majority of mankind and are directly interested in a policy of peace, collaboration and free and independent development. Stress was also laid on the identity of opinions on the need to strengthen the role of the UN and the other international bodies, to enhance their contribution to the ensurance of peace and security, to the growth of interstate cooperation.

The Executive Political Committee assessed the special significance Romania and the countries visited attach to the liquidation of underdevelopment, the bridging of gaps between rich and poor countries, the establishment of a new international economic order and the calling, to that end, of a UN-sponsored conference to be attended, on an equal footing, by both developing and developed countries with a view to reaching understandings conducive to a global solution to underdevelopment questions, inclusive of the foreign debt problem, to the establishment of new-type relations based on full equality and equity among all the states of the world.

The Executive Political Committee emphasized with satisfaction the fact that, during the talks, both Romania and the visited countries reaffirmed their determination to still closer cooperate in the world arena within the UN and other international bodies as well as within the Nonaligned Movement for a constructive solution to the major problems confronting mankind at present for the establishment of a lasting climate of peace, security, understanding and broad collaboration in Europe, Asia and worldwide.

The Executive Political Committee unanimously approved the documents and understandings agreed upon during the visits, and requested the ministries and the central economic organizations to act firmly so that the understandings and accords on collaboration with the visited countries be materialized in measures and practical actions for the expansion and deepening of ties between Romania and those countries on multiple planes, in the mutual interest, in the interests of the general cause of peace and cooperation throughout the world.

BRIEFS

SOVIET EMBASSY PRESS CONFERENCE -- A press conference was held at the Soviet Union's embassy in Bucharest on 20 March, attended by representatives from the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, and by Romanian journalists and foreign press correspondents accredited to Romania. At the conference Boris G. Shtepa, deputy minister of land reclamation and water resources of the USSR, who is visiting our country, spoke about the role of land improvement work in increasing agricultural yields and implementing the food program of the Soviet Union, and about Soviet-Romanian cooperation in agriculture. [Text] [Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 21 Mar 87 p 5 AU]

ACCORD ON REFINANCING DEBT REACHED IN PARIS

LD311845 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1642 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Paris, March 31 (TANJUG) -- A Yugoslav delegation, headed by Finance Minister Svetozar Rikanovic, reached an accord in Paris today on the method of transition to the second stage of the several-year refinancing of Yugoslavia's external debt, granted by the governments of fifteen Western countries and Kuwait.

The second stage of funding includes the refinancing of 84 percent of the principal of the debt, due for repayment in the period between May 1987 and the end of March 1988.

The Paris accord on the second stage of refinancing Yugoslavia's debt, which is to start on May 16 this year, represents the further realization of the several-year arrangement on the funding of Yugoslav debts. The accord stems from the official minutes signed in May last year as part of the model of enhanced monitoring of economic trends in Yugoslavia by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) accord on refinancing Yugoslav debt.

Representatives of the sixteen creditor countries accepted the accord on the method of realization of the second stage of refinancing Yugoslavia's debt after hearing the IMF's report, a summary presented by the IMF managing director, a report by Yugoslav Finance Minister Svetozar Rikanovic on economic trends and Yugoslavia's economic policy, and a lengthy and lively debate between creditors and the Yugoslav delegation.

It has been learned that the Yugoslav delegation's well-argumented and convincing explanations influenced the final decision of the representatives of the sixteen creditor countries.

The Paris accord is seen as an important step toward the fuller realization of Yugoslavia's requests for refinancing which have been under negotiation since early 1985. Talks with commercial banks on the procedure for carrying out the second stage of the several-year refinancing of Yugoslavia's debt are envisaged for April.

FURTHER ON MIKULIC'S 2-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRG

Report on Kohl Interview

LD260637 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2140 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Zagreb, March 25 (TANJUG) -- "Yugoslavia is a significant part of Europe and it is therefore very important to do everything possible, along with paying full respect to its non-aligned status, not to have it become too distant from the development of the E.C. countries", Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) Chancellor Helmut Kohl said in an interview broadcast tonight by the Yugoslav television.

The interview precedes Yugoslav Premier Branko Mikulic's visit to Bonn tomorrow.

The Federal Republic chancellor assessed that Yugoslavia's stability was of great importance to Europe as a whole, and the preservation of its non-aligned status was directly linked with stability in Europe.

Kohl also believes that the Federal Republic can do much in the way of enabling mutually beneficial cooperation between Yugoslavia and the E.C.

He described relations between Yugoslavia and the FRG as friendly, marked with mutual respect and recognition of different positions. Recalling that about 300,000 temporarily-employed Yugoslavs, and as many of their family members, live in the Federal Republic, he set out that several hundred thousand, perhaps a full million, West German tourists will this year visit Yugoslavia.

Fresh impulses in the Soviet policy should be followed "with greatest interest", carefully comparing "indications with actions", Kohl stated. It is our goal to achieve sensible and if possible good relations with the Soviet Union, mutually respecting differences in the social systems and non-interference in internal development, Kohl said.

Speaking on relations between the FRG and the Democratic Republic of Germany (GDR), Kohl said that despite fundamental differences in the social systems and problems in FRG-GDR relations, much has been achieved in the way of their normalization. If the world climate takes a favourable turn, we, too, will have opportunities for developing good relations, to the benefit of the populations of both countries, he set out and stated the conviction that the current year provided good chances for this.

Replying to the question whether in the long run the world could be conceived without military-political alliances, the Federal Chancellor said that there are countries in the world, including Yugoslavia, which had the opportunity, and fortunately made use of it, to be outside the blocs "in the best sense of the word". He assessed, however, that the FRG was not one of these countries, but needs "friends, partners and allies".

I can imagine, and that is the true meaning of the policy of disarmament and detente, that the razor-sharp edges of conflict can be eliminated, that the two sides would begin a rapprochement, Kohl noted, but expressed doubt about the possibility of a world without treaties and alliances.

Double Taxation Agreement

AU311702 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 27 Mar 87 p 2

[Excerpt] Bonn, 26 Mar (TANJUG) -- Yugoslavia and the FRG this evening signed an agreement on avoiding double taxation, which is expected to offer an incentive to joint investment and other forms of long-term economic cooperation.

The agreement was signed in Bonn this evening by Radovan Makic, member of the FEC, and Gerhard Stoltenberg, FRG minister of finance. Makic arrived in Bonn together with FEC President Branko Mikulic, who is on a 2-day visit to the FRG.

Without any essential changes in present practice, the agreement provides a legal framework for the tax liabilities of Yugoslavs who live in the FRG or Germans who live in Yugoslavia.

This agreement, which was under negotiation by the two countries for about 6 years, covers 12 Yugoslav and 4 FRG taxes. The basic principle of the agreement is that the tax is paid in the country in which income is earned. [passage omitted]

Mikulic's Return

LD271924 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1729 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Mar (TANJUG) -- Branko Mikulic, president of the Federal Executive Council, and his wife and colleagues arrived this evening in Belgrade from Bonn where they were visiting at the invitation of Helmut Kohl, federal chancellor of the FRG. At Belgrade airport in Surcin, the president of the Federal Executive Council was met and welcomed by Janez Zemljaric, vice president of the Federal Executive Council; Zoran Miskovic, general secretary of the Federal Executive Council; Nenad Radovanovic, under secretary in the federal secretariat for foreign affairs; and Doctor Helmut Gegel, charge d'affaires at the FRG Embassy in Yugoslavia.

BORBA Assessment

AU311210 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 28-29 Mar 87 p 1

[Excerpts] Bonn, 27 Mar (TANJUG) -- Branko Mikulic, president of the Federal Executive Council, ended his 2-day official visit to the FRG this afternoon and left for Yugoslavia.

The main topics of the discussion held today between Branko Mikulic, president of the Federal Executive Council, and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the FRG minister of foreign affairs, were East-West relations, arms control, bilateral cooperation, and Yugoslavia's relations with EC.

As has been learned from Yugoslav diplomatic sources, Genscher expressed the opinion that West German political support for Yugoslavia should take the form of support in the economic sphere. It is in the West German long-term interest to have as good an economic partner in Yugoslavia as possible.

Mikulic stressed that Yugoslavia was not asking for anything that was not in the long-term interests of both countries. In relations with the EC, it is necessary to make it possible for Yugoslavia to export more, to provide it with a greater access to new technologies, and to provide it with greater financial support.

Both sides concluded that the latest developments in the USSR are of significant international importance. These developments are real developments which will also benefit the whole international community through the creation of possibilities for strengthening international economic cooperation.

The German side pointed out the interest of both superpowers in reaching an agreement on the withdrawal of medium-range missiles from Europe. In that context, as was stated, it was positive of the USSR no longer to make the agreement on medium-range missiles conditional on other questions.

The Bridge of Cooperation [subhead]

Mikulic also met with Philipp Jenninger, president of the Bundestag, with whom he mainly discussed how to improve relations between the two countries' parliaments. [passage omitted]

In his talks with Johannes Rau, vice chairman of the SPD, Mikulic discussed the international situation and cooperation between the German Social Democrats and the LCY.

In his statement for the West German television program for Yugoslav workers, Mikulic said that he was satisfied with the talks he held in Bonn yesterday and the day before yesterday.

He said that the forthcoming constitutional changes in Yugoslavia, particularly regulations that apply to the private sector of the economy, will contribute to the creation of conditions for the earlier return of Yugoslav workers from abroad. [passage omitted]

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON INTERVENTION LAW STRIKES

Discussed by Croatian Council

LD131340 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1140 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Zagreb, 31 Mar (TANJUG) — From the beginning of this year until 27 March a total of 131 work stoppages involving 17,900 workers were registered in the SR of Croatia. The majority of work stoppages, as many as 98, occurred in March with almost half of these being directly provoked by the enforcement of the intervention laws.

At today's session of the Croatian Assembly Executive Council during a discussion on a report on work stoppages [words indistinct] incidents, hostile excesses and similar types of behavior. It has been established that in the case of two work stoppages the workers held the members of their party organizations responsible for their situation, while in a number of cases the enterprise officials were called to account. The Republic's Executive Council insisted that all future analyses of work stoppages should define more precisely the causes for the work stoppages so that more efficient measures may be taken to reduce the number of work stoppages.

The Executive Council also endorsed a proposed program of activities of the republic's administration organs and organizations in preparing and implementing fire protection measures in 1987. Last year the number of fires in Croatia dropped by 18 percent in comparison with those in the previous year.

Involve 10,000 in Serbia

AU311332 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 30 Mar 87 p 5

[Mila Jankovic report: "Every Day a Strike"]

[Excerpts] In the first 3 months of this year — or to be precise, the period ending 25 March — on average, one work stoppage was registered in the territory of Serbia without the provinces every day. In other words, the commission for All-People's Defense and Social Self-Protection of the Presidium of the Trade Unions of Serbia registered 93 strikes, in which almost 10,000 workers took part, and which practically always (in as many as 93 percent of cases) had personal incomes as their direct cause. This statement is supported by the fact that since 26 February, when the intervention law came into effect, 33 work stoppages were registered, chiefly in the textile and metal industries, although it cannot be said that these branches of the economy had the most strikes. [passage omitted]

If a comparison is made with the first quarter last year (40 work stoppages), it is evident that the number of stoppages in the republic more than doubled, and therefore this problem requires much more attention and time than was devoted to it until now. [passage omitted]

In the SD [expansion unknown] Basic Organization of Associated Labor of the Nis Electronics Industry, 800 people stopped work. This was the stoppage involving the largest number of workers in the first 3 months this year. It is followed by Fagram of Smederevo with 700, and Petar Velebit with 500 workers. The longest stoppage of 3 days was registered at the Krznara Basic Organization of Associated Labor of the Obnova Work Organization in Sabac, while work stoppages in 15 collectives lasted 2 days each. [passage omitted]

It is indicative, it is said, in the materials prepared for the Presidium of the Trade Unions of Serbia, that work stoppages are followed and utilized by certain hostile structures, which is also indicated by a number of cases when hostile slogans and fascist symbols were inscribed in some basic organizations of associated labor. All this shows that in solving the disputes leading to work stoppages, all possible self-managing democratic ways and methods have not been used first and therefore work stoppages have increased in frequency in some communities. Indeed, the stoppages are not directed against self-management, but they do leave harmful sociopolitical consequences. [passage omitted]

Misa Vele, professional assistant in the Commission for All-People's Defense and Social Self-Protection of the Presidium of the Trade Unions of Serbia, stressed that a new, essential characteristic of work stoppages in the first quarter of this year arises. Virtually every stoppage is characterized by workers meetings that are held and frequently last several hours, and are even continued the next day, and at these meetings workers try to solve by themselves, the problems that have arisen, in which they generally succeed. There have been cases, it is true, of work stopped several times, which shows that some solutions were of short duration, which is to say no long-term solution was found.

Judging on this basis, important and serious tasks face the trade unions in the coming period. [passage omitted]

Jeftic Claims Strikes Exaggerated

AU311246 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 28-29 Mar 87 p 7

[V.K. and M.T. report: "Prices Too High for Salaries"]

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 27 Mar -- The time has come when nice words should be replaced by specific, good answers. Attention should focus on the request that everybody does his part, that is, his job as well as he can, because the republic can no longer act as rescuer, nor can the government be voted "the best businessman." This was one of the messages of the introductory speech of Desimir Jeftic, president of the Serbian Executive Council, delivered to the representatives of the communal assemblies of Belgrade and the Belgrade region, which, continuing the practice of direct cooperation had gathered in the republican assembly to exchange their views and experiences about topical economic trends, and agree on how to achieve the tasks in front of them.

Exaggerated Strikes [subhead]

Jeftic said that systemic laws are still overshadowed by the intervention law, and that responsible conduct of business affairs must not be harmed. "We will no longer be able to push for personal incomes, unrestrained costs, and all the comfort we have at present."

According to the president of the Executive Council, the atmosphere surrounding the strikes has been exaggerated because, as he said, "when you look and add up everything, it appears that one factory was on strike for 1 day." We have every chance to concentrate on our work because in this atmosphere it is important that we increase our production considerably."

As was expected, in the discussion the representatives of communes and regions devoted the most attention to the introduction of the intervention law an its already visible consequences in particular. [passage omitted]

Summing up the discussion, Branislav Ikonic, president of the Serbian Assembly, pointed out that we cannot satisfy ourselves by waiting for changes in the Constitution, the Law on Associated Labor, and other systemic regulations and measures of the economic policy, or by hoping that the activities of other would solve our own difficulties. Solving the current problems in the economy, said Ikonic, cannot wait because one should not expect that the changes themselves will solve our problems and difficulties. But, the application of the adopted measures, including the intervention measures, cannot be questioned as long as they are effective, which does not exclude the need and possibility for their improvement if it is found that they are not having the best effect.

Correction: Striking Waiters

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Waiters on Strike Fail To Serve Mikulic, Dolanc," published in the 30 March Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT, page I 5, paragraph three, line four: ...had the guests that evening not been Stane Dolanc, Branko Mikulic, and Ivan Stambolic."... (supplying dropped word "not")

SFRY ASSEMBLY DISCUSSES CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION

LD302015 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1109 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 30 Mar (TANJUG) — The Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly today accepted the Yugoslav Presidency's proposal to begin making changes in the country's constitution and adopted a decision on carrying out this task. This was done on the basis of the agreement by the assemblies of all the republics and provinces to change the SFRY Constitution. At the same time, the Federal Chamber charged the SFRY Assembly Commission for constitutional questions to draw up draft constitutional amendments by 31 July, in accordance with the Presidency's proposal. In this work, the constitutional commission should, it was concluded, take into account suggestions and proposals put forward in the SFRY Assembly and in the assemblies of the republics and provinces that are in accord with the proposal submitted by the Presidency.

In a wide debate, the delegates pointed to the importance of the forthcoming changes in the Constitution for resolving social problems, underlining that the SFRY Presidency has received unreserved backing in all environments.

In giving their backing to the SFRY Presidency proposal, the working people and citizens of Bosnia and Hercegovina considered that there is no need to change the basic principles and guidelines of the Constitution, Bozidar Zan said. That means, he said, that there can be no haggling over the revolutionary heritage of our society such as self-management; brotherhood and unity; the power of the working class; the federal order; the constitutional positions of the republics and provinces; Yugoslavia's freedom, sovereignty and integrity, and independent and nonaligned policy; and the system of all-people's defense and self-protection.

Bozidar Zan said that opinions reducing the extent and content of the constitutional changes to merely cosmetic touching-up are without foundation. [passage omitted]

In connection with the position of the SR of Serbia, Zan said that Bosnia-Hercegovina backed the decision in the proposal for undertaking a review — taking as the point of departure the LCY Central Committee standpoints on realizing the constitutional concept of the federation, and on topical issues upon which unity and togetherness in Serbia are based — of those issues, in a democratic and constructive manner.

Ilijaz Kurtesi emphasized that the Kosovo assembly has also, on the basis of wide-spread debate in the republic, given its support to the SFRY Presidency's proposal to begin making changes in the Constitution. The complexity of the social situation as well as strained relations in the world demand that this work be approached in a very organized and serious manner, he emphasized.

Kurtesi also said that one need pay no attention to criticism of the relatively frequent changes to the Constitution, because our society is developing dynamically, and classic and dogmatic constitutional solutions which take no account of contemporary processes of revolutionary development are inappropriate to it.

The debate on the constitutional changes and constitutional solutions should make it possible to further develop and enrich the principles of our national policy, Ilijaz Kurtesi stressed, recalling that overemphasis on the role of the national state and statehood in relation to the system of self-management has had, and still does have, a negative effect upon our national policy. [passage omitted]

According to Kurtesi, the constitutional solutions, particularly the section on constitutionality and legality, should facilitate a wide struggle against nationalism, which is becoming an increasingly serious social problem.

The Croat assembly gave unanimous support to the guidelines for carrying out the changes, exclusively in the normative part of the Constitution, so that its basic principles are not altered, Blazenko Knjaz said. [passage omitted]

Speaking about the role of the federation, she stressed that it would be essential to perceive the expediency and judiciousness of expanding the federation's competence in spheres and activities which have hitherto been within the competence of the republics and provinces. It is essential to see whether all the existing norms of the constitution should be retained, whether new ones should be added to these, or whether efforts should be made to reduce the constitutional material to dimensions which will ensure the stability of the system, while using laws to settle in detail questions of relations in individual sections of the system. [passage omitted]

The Slovene Assembly, while also backing the Presidency's proposal, also took up the stand that there should be no change in the basic principles of the Constitution, Joze Susmelj said. [passage omitted]

Joze Susmelj also said that in Slovenia there was marked adherence to Yugoslavia's federal order and to life together, but on the principles of equality, also of individual responsibility for one's own development, proceeding from the principles that all the nations and nationalities associated in Federal Yugoslavia bear and share the responsibility for their own development, but also for the development of the country as a whole. Alongside this, according to Susmelj, certain things which have been left unsaid in the material relating to the competence of the federation have given rise to fears that changes in the aforementioned principles are afoot. Because concepts such as the unified bases of the taxation system, general principles of the judicial system, common bases for education and the basis system of association of working people and citizens in social organizations and society, are insufficiently specific, the proposed constitutional changes are in some environments, interpreted as encroaching upon some sovereign rights of the people, or the republic. These concepts should be clarified in drawing up the draft amendments in order to avoid extremes in interpretation, Susmelj stressed. [passage omitted]

Delegate Viktorija Potocnik had certain criticisms on the draft changes to the Constitution. The most striking thing, she said, is the redistribution of competence in favor of the federation. This delegate considers that there are quite a few initiatives to make our electoral system more democratic and to go further toward direct elections. Since there are also opinions that this is incompatible with the essence of the delegate system, Viktorija Potocnik suggested it would be a good idea to make a separate analysis of this.

Hisen Ramadani said that Macedonia gave support to the SFRY Presidency's proposal to change the Constitution, emphasizing that the proposal provides for significant changes of vital importance for the strengthening of self-management production relations, for enhancing democracy in social relations, for consolidating the unity of the working class and society as a whole, and for providing an atmosphere for greater rationalization and increased efficiency of the economic and political system.

The future work on changing the Consititution, Ramadani warned, must not be influenced by the opponents of the system, by egoism, self-satisfaction, separatism, unitarism and similar phenomena.

According to Miodrag Trifunovic, the SFRY Presidency's proposal received full support in Serbia where a number of specific proposals were also made. Among other things, the idea was put forward about the need to create conditions for a uniform and efficient enforcement of the federal laws, as the present Constitution did not provide adequate guarantee for the implementation of the laws passed by the federal organs. In other words, federal organs should be given certain powers and instruments to enable them to ensure that the federal laws are enforced. [passage omitted]

In relation to the issue of the position of the SR of Serbia, Trifunovic drew attention to the calls for such solutions which would make it possible for the status of the SR of Serbia, as defined in the normative section of the SFRY Constitution, to be harmonized with the general constitutional principles.

Zarija Martinovic, Danijel Pucko, and Lazo Tesla also took part in the debate.

The session was continued by the adoption of a law regulating entry into the country during the student games in Zagreb this year. Under this law, 1 month before the games open, during the games (from 8 to 19 July), and 1 month after the games close, the participants in the games will not need a visa to enter the country. Instead, they will be allowed into the country by producing a certificate confirming their participation in the games and their passports. [passage omitted]

Taking part in the debate, the president of the Federal Committee for Science and Technology, Dr Bozidar Matic, said that the Federal Executive Council had drawn up a much better draft strategy which incorporated suggestions by the republican and provincial assembiles which had already given their approval of the document. Noting that the strategy could not be expected to resolve all our difficulties and that many issues would be dealt by separate strategies -- on development in tourism, transport, agriculture and other areas -- Matic stressed that the successful implementation of the strategy would be possible only if the country continued to promote economic pressure, consolidate the pooling of labor and resources and search for measures to increase the mobility of the labor force and money on which a faster technological development depended. [passage omitted]

The Federal Chamber passed a law today ratifying Yugoslav-Italian agreement on fishing in the Bay of Trieste within the framework of economic cooperation in border areas and trade with Italy. The Federal Chamber delegates also endorsed the platforms and outlined objectives of the talks which an SFRY Assembly's delegation will have with the parliamentary delegations of Cuba, Sweden and Portugal. The Federal Chamber's work program draft for the second quarter was also adopted.

Before the session was brought to a conclusion it was agreed to postpone the discussion on the proposed changes to the Intervention Law on pegging personal incomes to labor productivity growth. The decision was made in order to enable the Federal Chamber Committee for Economic Relations to reexamine the submitted amendments and Federal Executive Council's standpoints as regards the amendments.

The proposed changes to this law outline, inter alia, more favorable solutions for work organizations engaged in seasonal work, those with long-running manufacturing cycles, orgnizations which last year adhered to the principles of good housekeeping in distributing personal incomes and a number of organizations in social services sector which has their funds for readjusting personal incomes in the last quarter of last year brought over to this year by the self-managing communities of interests. [passage omitted]

CHANGES TO INTERVENTION LAW ADOPTED 31 MAR

LD312252 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1704 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 31 Mar (TANJUG) -- With the changes in the intervention law on the coordination of personal incomes with the growth in productivity which were approved today by the federal chamber of the SFRY Assembly, concessions are made to organizations operating on a seasonal basis, with long-running production in distribution. The changes also apply to social activities wherein self-managing communities have carried over to this year funds intended for the adjustment of personal incomes in the final quarter of last year.

Seasonal industries and organizations with long-running production cycles are allowed to pay incomes this year at the level of the average from the same accounting period last year, increased by the growth in productivity, but up to the limit of the rate of increase of the average monthly income per worker this year in comparison with the same period last year.

This possibility is laid down for seasonal tourism and catering, airlines, airports, farming, organizations that provide services for crop production, the constructjion industry (building construction and civil engineering), and sea salt production. These collectives must, however, meet two conditions -- that they had no losses last year, and that in the first half of 1986 they achieved less than 35 per cent of their annual income.

Among organizations with long-running production cycles, those with the right to pay out personal incomes under the amended law are shipbuilding and the production of power generating machinery and equipment.

According to the changes in the law, a basic organization within the framework of a work organization may pay out personal incomes above the established amount if other basic organizations reduce the amount of their earnings. Naturally, this is conditional upon it being envisaged in an internal self-managing agreement approved prior to the adoption of the intervention law on earnings. The same right, on these conditions, applies to labor within the framework of a composition organization of associated labor.

Organizations and organs which have rationally distributed earnings and paid out, in the last quarter of last year, the same personal incomes as in the previous quarter, may increase the basic rate of the fourth quarter to the rate of growth in net personal income per worker in the economy of the republic or province. Organs and organizations of the federation may do this up to the rate of growth in personal income per worker in the economy of the country.

As an improvement for the good housekeepers, the possibility is envisaged for organizations that in their final accounts for 1986 achieve a higher rate of accumulation than in an equivalent or similar activity in the republic, or province, to increase the average personal income per worker by half of the surplus in the rate of accumulation, up to a limit of 25 per cent.

Collectives which have set funds for the payment of incomes at an amount below the guaranteed personal income may pay them up to the level of the guaranteed personal incomes established by the law. If organizations cover losses in business activity in the final accounts for 1986, they may increase the basis for personal incomes up to the average net personal income per worker in their grouping.

The "overpaid" part of personal income will be returned in three equal monthly tranches, beginning with the payment of April earnings.

In addition to the amendments to the law, the chamber also adopted several conclusions. The Federal Executive Council was asked to propose, within a month, a package of measures for the improvement of the position of exporters and the removal of the possible negative affect of the intervention law on personal incomes for these organizations. Within the same deadline, the Federal Executive Council is also to prepare solutions for the utilization of funds for joint expenditure in collectives which did not pay these last year. It was also concluded that, in the future, laws and the accompanying regulations for their implementation should be proposed at the same time.

In the debate which preceded the adoption of the changes in the law, attention was drawn to the harmful consequences evoked by the application of some of the original solutions. Delegate Radivoj Tepsic, for example, stressed that the very fact that the law is being amended only a month after its adoption does not contribute to the strengthening of the authority of the assembly and the proposer of the law, while Zdravko Zabukovec said that this is further proof that delegates are justifiably questioning the validity of intervention measures. [passage omitted]

Marija Todorovic, president of the Yugoslav Trade Union Federation Council, recalled the trade unions had very quickly pointed out the weaknesses of the law, which because of its unselectiveness hit the conscientious and the successful, as well as the undisciplined. She refuted the writings of the Yugoslav and, in particular, foreign press, on the number of work stoppages, because of 6.5 million workers in employment, some 28,000 workers went on strike, and not all of them decided on this step as a result of the intervention law. Marija Todorovic recalled that the social contract on income was also signed today, which should make it possible for the validity of the intervention law to cease from 1 July. [passage omitted]

Taking part in the debate, Janez Zemljaric, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, stressed that the Federal Executive Council, like the delegates, was aware of the limited scope of the intervention measures. But, he added, unfavorable economic trends sometimes demand that we resort to such moves. Even now, Zemljaric stressed, there is divergence from what is outlined in the resolution for this year. Inflation is growing, exports are stagnating at a significantly lower level than planned, and the accumulative capacity of the economy and of income available to it are being reduced. At the same time, Zemljaric further warned, all forms of expenditure are continuing to grow.

MILOSAVLJEVIC ON IMPLEMENTING ECONOMIC POLICY

AU251520 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 19 Mar 87 pp 1, 3

[Report on the news conference for foreign correspondents held by Milos Milosavljevic, FEC vice president; Svetozar Rikanovic, federal secretary for finance; Nenad Krekic, federal secretary for foreign trade; Svetozar Durutovic, federal secretary for information; and Dr Janko Obocki, president of the Federal Committee for Labor, Health, and Social Policy — time and place not given]

[Text] Belgrade (TANJUG) — The FEC will consistently implement the adopted economic policy and create conditions for a quicker transfer to real economic categories. It will send proposals on further changes in the economic stem to the SFRY assembly soon. It is therefore necessary to resolutely implement this year's resolution on the development of the country and it was because of this that the intervention laws on reducing spending to established level were adopted recently.

We are aware of the difficulties, but one cannot deviate from the basic orientation on increasing production and exports and curbing inflation. After all, there is the full accord of all political and state organs, FEC vice president Milos Milosavljevic pointed out in the talk with foreign correspondents held at the Belgrade International Press Center.

Svetozar Rikanovic, Nenad Krekic, and Svetozar Durutovic, federal secretaries for finance, foreign trade, and information, respectively, and Dr Janko Obocki, president of the Federal Committee for Labor, Health, and Social Policy also spoke at the news conference about current economic trends.

Great attention of domestic and foreign public was attracted by the implementation of intervention laws which have to be implemented in the whole of the country in a consistent and unified way. Presidents of republican and provincial executive council also agreed on the need for a unified implementation at the meeting organized by the FEC yesterday, Milosavljevic noted. Of course, the FEC is ready to examine all suggestions on possible removal of shortages in the law, but will not renounce the coordination of personal income with work results.

There was even some exaggeration sometimes in informing foreign public, such as that due to the implementation of intervention laws Yugoslavia is confronted with social unrests, even that it is sitting "on a powder keg," Milosavljevic pointed out. Due to the implementation of the intervention law, work stoppages are on the increase to a certain extent. At some places, the leaderships and trade unions in collectives criticize those measures at the same time hiding their own mistakes in conducting business operations. The coordination of spending with real possibilities is inevitable, not only in our country. The waves of strikes of miners, railroad workers, and others in highly developed West European and other countries have not been called "social explosions." For, even the countries that are the cradle of market economy sometimes coordinate spending with the really earned income using administrative measures as well.

There are many difficulties in the implementation of economic policy but positive results, like last year's and this year's 2-month increase in industrial production should not be forgotten. Last year there was a significant growth in agricultural production, there was growth in employment, and the balance of payments surplus was $1.1 billion. The foreign debt was paid off regularly, as it has been at the beginning of this year as well. In 2 months about $640 million of debt and $352 million interest has been paid off, FEC Vice President Milosvaljevic, recalled.

In the discussion, which contained an abundance of questions, it was stressed that after talks with creditors on the second phase of rescheduling, it will be known how much debt we have to pay off this year. We will endeavor to ensure, however, that our creditors continue to "sleep peacefully", Federal Secretary for Finance Svetozar Rikanovic said. Members of the IMF mission tried, in the preparation of their report, to discover facts that shed light on our economic situation. They did not overlook positive results, nor trends with which we, too, are dissatisfied (inflation, "overshoots" in spending, and other things). A true assessment of the report will be known after the final words of the IMF director, Rikanovic stressed.

The postponed talks with creditors are scheduled for 30 March in Paris.

It is there that representatives of the governments of 16 countries will become familiar with our economic situation and efforts to improve it. It is expected that an agreement on the second phase of the rescheduling of debts will be reached, after which there will be talks with the commercial banks, the federal secretary for finance added.

Replying to the question of why the government had not frozen prices as well, Milosavljevic replied that this would be a step backward in introducing market laws and would probably confront us with shortages of individual products. The FEC is not for "the freezing" of prices but, if necessary, it will not refrain from measures of social control, Milosavljevic said, recalling that in the first 2 months of this year prices that are formed freely have grown significantly more quickly than those that are controlled.

Several journalists were interested in the exchange rate policy for the dinar, the transition to economic rents, and the implementation of the law on financial reorganisation. Rikanovic explained that there would be no going back on the policy of having a realistic exchange rate for the dinar, which was adjusted in February as well. However, this does not mean that there can be no discussion about improving methodology and other questions concerning the exchange rate of our currency. Indeed a working group is preparing a model for the quickest possible transition to economic rents. This question must be comprehensively examined because of its social importance, because for specific categories the possibility of subsidized "rents" ought to be ensured, Rikanovic said. After all, not only bureaucrats live in public apartments Milosavljevic added. They are "distributed" according to the number of family members and not according to their financial possibilities. At the same time, the possibility will be created for the long-term repayment of housing loans in order to bring about (along with the association of members of a family) "a roof over their head" as quickly as possible.

With the application of the law on financial reorganization, some loss-makers will, without doubt, have to cease production, but at the same time efforts will be made for them to find a place in the market by changing their production programs. There will certainly also be collectives in the reproduction chain that are interested in assisting those who are in difficulties if there is a belief that they are essential and that they can recover quickly.

I do not see a reason why the FEC should resign at this point, since there is full agreement on the implementation of established economic policy, Milosavljevic stressed, replying to a question from several foreign correspondents. It is time for the resignation of those who do not implement this policy, he stressed, and pointed out that with the proposed changes to the Constitution and the Law on Associated Labor, it should be easier to facilitate more effective implementation of federal regulations.

The Intervention Laws are in any case temporary, and with the harmonization of the self-managing regulations on distribution in collectives with the provisions contained in the changed law on income, conditions should be created, starting 1 July, for the cessation of the operation of the Intervention Law, Dr Janko Obocki recalled.

Replying to a question about the shortage of imported reproduction material, Nenad Krekic stressed that this question is sometimes exaggerated, although at the beginning of this year stocks were reduced. There was a significant increase in purchases in December, so in many organizations stocks enabled a growth in production, which in the first 2 months was 1.7 percent higher than last year. Some imported materials are replaceable by domestic ones, but this does not mean that there are no difficulties with imported raw materials and reproduction material and that essential quantities should not be acquired.

There is no thought of selling some organizations of associated labor to private individuals in the country and abroad, Svetozar Rikanovic stressed in reply to one of the questions, adding that efforts would be made to ensure more attractive conditions for joint ventures with foreign partners. At present there is an idea concerning the possible repayment of foreign debt in dinars as well, Rikanovic said.

Our aim is the further strengthening of self-management, something that should facilitate changes in the Constitution, the Law on Associated Labor, and the economic system. In this way an impetus should be given to the pooling of labor and resources throughout the country and to the strengthening of the united Yugoslav market, Milosavljevic said, replying to a journalist's observation that self-management is being "restricted." In his words, the situation cannot be characterized as a political crisis. True, when there are changes in society, forces appear with which there must be political discussion, Milosavljevic stressed.

ASSEMBLY SIGNS SOCIAL CONTRACT ON LABOR, RESOURCES

LD010905 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1310 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Mar (TANJUG) -- A social contract on pooling labor and resources until 1990 was signed today in the SFRY Assembly. This is the first agreement of this kind which has been signed by representatives of the republican and provincial assemblies, economic chambers, the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy, the Association of Yugoslav Banks, the Federal Fund for crediting the development of the underdeveloped, and the SFRY Assembly.

The reason for drawing up the agreement was the inadequate volume and quality of the pooling, which has hitherto been regulated by resolutions, social plans, and provisions of the law on the resources of the federal fund which were not binding. Unlike these, the social contract, in the view of the participants in the agreement-reaching process, offers precise solutions.

Under the contract, work organizations which pool their labor and resources will have the basis for the calculation of their taxation on income reduced. This refers only to cooperation between organizations of associated labor of developed and underdeveloped republics and provinces. In addition, collectives in Bosnia-Hercegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, and Kosovo will be able to purchase foreign exchange to pay for equipment which is not produced in Yugoslavia and will have the customs rate for importing such equipment reduced. Work organizations from these sociopolitical communities will be relieved of taxation on all payment commitments to other countries, and they will be able to utilize foreign loans on more favorable terms. In order to encourage pooling, the mechanism for collecting funds for such purposes has been simplified.

SOLIDARITY FUND'S ENROLLMENT DRIVE DENOUNCED

AU212004 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Rade Veljanovski commentary]

[Text] The initiatory committee of the so-called Solidarity Fund failed to realize the idea of the official founding of this institution. [paragraph continues]

The assembly convoked for 7 March was not held. In spite of this, the inspirers of this politicking venture, defying society's censure continue to distribute their invitations to increase membership in the fund, trying more and more aggressively to make official their appearance in public. Here is commentary by Rade Veljanovski:

Some strange parcels have been sent recently to many people who work in the public media, mostly the editorial boards of big media. The big parcels cannot be identified from outside; it is not known who sent them, where they came from and to whom they are sent in particular. However, when one removes the wrapping, the contents are much clearer: an invitation to join the Solidarity Fund. Since the first round of sending such parcels was much talked of, and the attempt to found an organization ready to offer moral and financial help to anyone irrespective of his political orientations was assessed as counterrevolutionary and anti-self-management activity, one would think that the anarchistic enthusiasm of the so-called initiatory would subside. However, its activity is continuing and continuing with new elements at that. In the latest address to the recipients of their propagandist texts, the now little increased group of individuals, initiators have changed their style. They are persistently trying to prove that their initiative is neither anticommunist, nor is it against socialism and self-management. The common sayings of the style "once bitten twice shy," and "the leopard does not change its spots" come to mind immediately, because the champions of said fund fail to explain that out of all those self-managers, they offer help only to those who have sinned against the self-managing system. Starting from the aid to open journalists, they have completely forgotten that there are really many reasons for solidarity in the journalistic profession as well as in any other: There are many people without apartments, personal incomes are not at an enviable level, and there are also a considerable number of young people who have been working for newspapers for years with that uncertain status of contributors. Some help would be precious to all of them, but for the fund's initiators they are not suitable. The condition is that a candidate comes into conflict with the community and the social system. It is then not difficult to see with whom the initiators of this kind of association want solidarity.

According to the latest information, it seems there are certain differences among those who signed applications to the fund. Thus, for instance, a group of workers from Vinkovci demands that Article 10 be removed from the draft program of the Solidarity Fund, because they think one cannot support those who are against the basic principles of development and building of socialism in Yugoslavia. Such a reaction is positive and, one would say, expected from those signatories who were obviously manipulated and uninformed. However, there are some other reactions. Signatories from Slovenia have also sent proposals for changing Article 10; according to this proposal, help cannot be given to those who advocate violence or provoke national, religious, or racial intolerance. However, this proposal is then open to solidarity with those who for instance advocate a multiparty system or introduction of capitalist relations in economy.

If one is to believe the parcels circulating recently, the Solidarity Fund gained another two collective members: the Serbian Philosophical Society, which is not very surprising, and the Association of 1912-18 Veterans, which is surprising. It remains to be seen whether some of the signatories of the initiative for founding the Fund will dissociate from its contents. Until then, it remains to all the conscious socialist forces of the society — along with developing self-managing democratic relations in their community — to call to responsibility all those who are hampering the development of such relations under the slogan of some other, higher democracy and who are diverting the attention and energy of working people from solving real social problems.